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**NASA CONFERENCE ON  
MATERIALS  
FOR IMPROVED FIRE SAFETY**

**Held at  
NASA Manned Spacecraft Center  
Houston, Texas**

**May 6 and 7, 1970**

**NATIONAL AERONAUTICS AND SPACE ADMINISTRATION**





TO PARTICIPANTS OF THE NASA CONFERENCE ON MATERIALS FOR IMPROVED  
FIRE SAFETY

It is well known that for more than a decade NASA has been discovering new things about the Earth, the Moon, the Sun, the nearby planets, and the universe itself. Not nearly so well known, however, is the important fact that NASA has also been discovering new things about human beings, materials and equipment. Some of the agency's most significant and satisfying work in recent years has been directly concerned with the control or elimination of fire hazards.

Recognizing that maximum benefit can be obtained from space research only when our discoveries are widely shared, we welcome the opportunity of participating in conferences such as this one. We sincerely hope that you will find ways of adapting some of the many and varied findings presented here to relieve and reduce the hazards of fire in everyday working and living: in housing, hospitals, nursing homes, ships, passenger cars, aircraft, theaters, auditoriums, factories, or wherever people and their valued possessions may be.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'T. O. Paine', with a stylized, flowing script.

T. O. Paine  
Administrator



## AGENDA

MAY 6, 1970

Welcome

Robert R. Gilruth, Director, NASA Manned Spacecraft Center

Opening Remarks

Honorable Jerry L. Pettis, Representative from California

Introduction to Conference

Philip H. Bolger, Deputy Director, Manned Space Flight Safety,  
Washington, D.C.

### SESSION I — FLAMMABILITY REQUIREMENTS AND TEST TECHNIQUES

Chairman: Aleck C. Bond, Assistant Director for Chemical and  
Mechanical Systems, NASA Manned Spacecraft Center

#### 1 THE COMBUSTION PROCESS

W. R. Downs

#### 2 MANNED SPACECRAFT NONMETALLIC MATERIALS FLAMMABILITY SELECTION CRITERIA AND REQUIREMENTS

C. J. Katsikas and J. H. Levine

#### 3 THE DEVELOPMENT OF MATERIALS SCREENING TESTS FOR OXYGEN-ENRICHED ENVIRONMENTS

R. L. Johnston and D. L. Pippen

#### 4 COMPONENT FLAMMABILITY TESTING

Gary R. Primeaux

#### 5 FULL-SCALE SPACECRAFT MOCKUP FLAMMABILITY TESTS

R. W. Bricker, J. P. Crabb, and I. K. Spiker

## SESSION II — MATERIALS DEVELOPMENT

Chairman: Edward L. Hays, Deputy Chief, Crew Systems Division,  
NASA Manned Spacecraft Center

### 6 NONMETALLIC MATERIALS DEVELOPMENT FOR SPACECRAFT APPLICATIONS

Frederic S. Dawn

### 7 DEVELOPMENT AND APPLICATIONS OF FLUOREL

Daniel E. Supkis

### 8 DEVELOPMENT AND APPLICATION OF FLAME-RESISTANT POLYMERS AND COMPOSITES

Dale G. Sauers

### 9 DEVELOPMENT OF NONFLAMMABLE POTTING COMPOUNDS FOR SPACECRAFT USAGE

Harry F. Kline, Jr.

### 10 NEW MATERIALS FOR MANNED SPACECRAFT, AIRCRAFT, AND OTHER APPLICATIONS

Matthew I. Radnofsky

### 11 THE PERFORMANCE OF LIGHTWEIGHT PLASTIC FOAMS DEVELOPED FOR FIRE SAFETY

R. H. Fish

### 12 INTUMESCENCE: AN IN SITU APPROACH TO THERMAL PROTECTION

G. M. Fohlen, J. A. Parker, S. R. Riccitiello, and P. M. Sawko

MAY 7, 1970

## SESSION III — CONFIGURATION CONTROL AND MATERIALS APPLICATIONS

Chairman: Joseph N. Kotanchik, Chief, Structures and Mechanics  
Division, NASA Manned Spacecraft Center

### 13 NONMETALLIC MATERIALS CONFIGURATION CONTROL IN THE APOLLO SPACECRAFT

M. W. Steinthal

### 14 APOLLO SPACECRAFT NONMETALLIC MATERIALS APPLICATIONS

Jerry W. Craig

- 15 APOLLO APPLICATIONS OF BETA FIBER GLASS  
Jack Naimer
- 16 THE APOLLO SPACE SUIT MATERIALS  
Frederic S. Dawn and Ralph L. Jarboe
- 17 FIRE-SAFETY DESIGN OF A MOBILE QUARANTINE FACILITY  
Roderick S. Bass and John K. Hirasaki
- 18 PROTECTIVE CLOTHING UTILIZED AT THE KENNEDY SPACE CENTER  
Joel R. Reynolds
- 19 FIRE EXTINGUISHMENT IN HYPOBARIC AND HYPERBARIC ENVIRONMENTS  
J. H. Kimzey

SESSION IV — SPECIAL TESTS

Chairman: H. Kurt Strass, Safety Director, Office of Advanced  
Research and Technology, Washington, D.C.

- 20 MANNED SPACECRAFT ELECTRICAL FIRE SAFETY  
Anthony W. Wardell
- 21 SPECIAL FLAMMABILITY TEST TECHNIQUES  
Dale G. Sauers
- 22 SPECIALIZED TESTING AND EVALUATION OF SPACE-SUIT MATERIALS  
Thomas J. Ballentine
- 23 EVOLUTION AND DEVELOPMENT OF OXYGEN IMPACT TESTING METHOD  
Herschel H. Jamison
- 24 ODOR TEST  
Leonard A. Schluter and David L. Pippen
- 25 TOXICOLOGY OF SPACECRAFT MATERIALS  
Elliot S. Harris



## DEFINITIONS

The following is a brief listing of some of the symbols, abbreviations, acronyms, and technical terms from the various papers presented at this conference.

### Acronyms

ABS	see Chemical Terms
AOT	alinement optical telescope used in the Apollo command module for navigation
ASTM	American Society for Testing Materials
CM	Apollo spacecraft command module and reentry vehicle
CNR	carboxy nitroso rubber (see Chemical Terms)
CWG	constant-wear garment
DTA	differential thermal analysis (see Chemical Terms)
°F	degrees Fahrenheit
in.	inch
IVCL	intravehicular cover layer
LCG	liquid cooled garment
LEVA	lunar extravehicular visor assembly
LITMG	lunar integrated thermal micrometeoroid garment
LM	Apollo spacecraft lunar module, the lunar landing spacecraft
MEK	methylethylketone (see Chemical Terms)
MIBK	methyilisobutylketone (see Chemical Terms)
MFR	manufacturer
MQF	Mobile Quarantine Facility
MSC	Manned Spacecraft Center

MSFC	Marshall Space Flight Center
NF	nonflammable
NFM	nonflammable material
NMM	nonmetallic material
PGA	pressure garment assembly
psia	pounds per square inch absolute (pressure)
PVA	see Chemical Terms
PVC	see Chemical Terms
RTV	see Chemical Terms
SE	self-extinguishing
SM	Apollo spacecraft service module
TLSA	torso-limb suit assembly

#### Special Terms

conformal coating — A material uniformly applied over another material for protection.

cuff cards — Cards fixed to the arms of the space suits used on the lunar surface to remind the astronauts of task sequence.

denier — The weight in grams of 9000 meters of yarn or fiber; a measure of fiber or yarn fineness. The word was derived from a French coin, weighing approximately 0.5 gram, that was used as an actual weight for the purchase and sale of silk.

dielectric — Electrically nonconducting.

durometer — A measure of the hardness of a material.

edgelock — Treatment of the edge of a fabric to prevent fraying.

flammability — The propensity of a material to burn.

hyperbaric — Pressures greater than sea level pressure.



hypobaric — Pressures less than sea level pressure.

intumescence — The property of certain special plastics to swell upon application of heat.

lockstitch — Prevention of fraying of the edge of fabric by sewing along the edge.

Marquisette — A thin, lightweight fabric of cotton, silk, rayon, nylon, or glass with square, open meshes.

tricot — A type of knitting characterized by a runproof stitch.

wax pick — A measure of the resistance of the surface of a material to stain.

#### Chemical Terms

ABS — acrylonitrile butadiene styrene.

acrylic — A generic name for a manufactured fiber in which the fiber-forming substance is any long-chain synthetic polymer composed of at least 85 percent by weight of acrylonitrile units.

brominated polyester — A polyester with bromine added. (See polyester.)

carboxy nitroso rubber (CNR) — A flame-resistant terpolymer of trifluoronitrosomethane, tetrafluoroethylene, and nitroperfluorobutyric acid with rubberlike properties.

chloroprene — A colorless liquid,  $C_4H_5Cl$ , made from acetylene. It can be polymerized to form a synthetic rubber.

CO — carbon monoxide.

copolymer — A synthetic substance formed by the addition or condensation polymerization of two or more monomers.

dimethyl/siloxene — A type of silicone resin.

DTA — Differential thermal analysis which measures phase changes (endothermic and exothermic) with increasing temperatures.

ethylene — A colorless, inflammable, gaseous hydrocarbon of the olefin series.

fluoropolymer — A polymer containing fluorine.

fluorosilicone — A silicone resin in which hydrogen atoms have been replaced by fluorine.

hexafluoropropene — a fluorocarbon monomer.

melamine formaldehyde — A thermosetting resin made from melamine and formaldehyde, used chiefly in molded products, coatings, adhesives, and textile finishes.

methylethyl ketone (MEK) — An organic solvent.

methyldisobutyl ketone (MIBK) — An organic solvent.

modacrylic — A generic name for a synthetic fiber in which the fiber-forming substance is any long-chain synthetic polymer composed of less than 85 percent but at least 35 percent by weight of acrylonitrile units.

phenol formaldehyde — A thermosetting resin made from phenol and formaldehyde.

phenolic — Of, derived from, or containing phenol.

polyamide — A polymer in which the structural units are linked by amide or thiomide groupings.

polybenzimidazole (PBI) — A high-temperature-resistant polymeric fiber containing characteristic imide groups.

polycarbonate — A transparent plastic used for helmet visors. It is characterized by exceptionally high impact strength.

polyester — A generic name for a manufactured fiber in which the fiber-forming substance is any long-chain synthetic polymer composed of at least 85 percent by weight of an ester of a dihydric alcohol and terephthalic acid.

polyimide — A polymer containing characteristic imide groups.

polymer — A high-molecular-weight organic compound, natural or synthetic, whose structure can be represented by a repeated small unit.

polyquinoxaline — A high-temperature thermosetting resin derived from quinoxaline by substitution of a nitrogen atom for a methyldine group.

polysulfone — A high-temperature transparent polymer characterized by the sulfonyl group doubly united by means of its sulfur, usually with carbon.

polyurethane — Any of various synthetic rubber polymers produced by the polymerization of a hydroxyl (OH) radical and an NCO group from two different compounds.

PVA — polyvinyl acetate.

PVC — polyvinyl chloride.

RTV — A commercial potting compound.

silicone — Any of a group of synthetic resins, oils, greases, plastics, in which the carbon has been replaced by silicon.

terpolymer — A product of three different polyméizing substances.

tetrabromophthalicanhydride — A highly brominated hydrocarbon commonly used as a fire retardant.

tetrafluoroethylene — A fluoropolymer.

thermoplastic — A polymer that becomes or remains soft and moldable when subjected to heat.

thermosetting — Becoming permanently hard and unmoldable when once subjected to heat.

toluene — A colorless liquid hydrocarbon.

urea formaldehyde — A thermosetting resin made from urea and formaldehyde.

SESSION I

FLAMMABILITY REQUIREMENTS AND TEST TECHNIQUES

Session Chairman: Aleck C. Bond

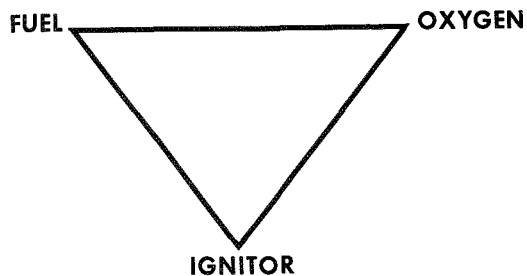
## THE COMBUSTION PROCESS

By W. R. Downs  
NASA Manned Spacecraft Center

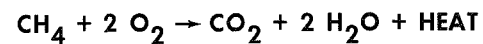
### ABSTRACT

Combustion is defined as any relatively fast reaction between gases that produces heat. The chemical and physical mechanisms that constitute the combustion process are defined and described in detail, using the candle flame as a model. The production of chemical free radicals (reactive fuel fragments) and the interactions between free radicals, coupled with energy and material transport factors, are illustrated. Continuous or sustained combustion is shown to involve a feedback mechanism in which part of the energy derived from the process goes into the driving of the mechanism and is limited only by the ability to bring together the reactants. On the basis of chemical and thermodynamic considerations, combustion factors such as fuel composition effects, exposed surface areas, fuel density, fuel geometry, convective environment effects, and diffusion effects are discussed. It is observed that convection and diffusion forces promote combustion rate, whereas thermal conduction and reactant starvation diminish combustion rate.

## FIRE TRIANGLE

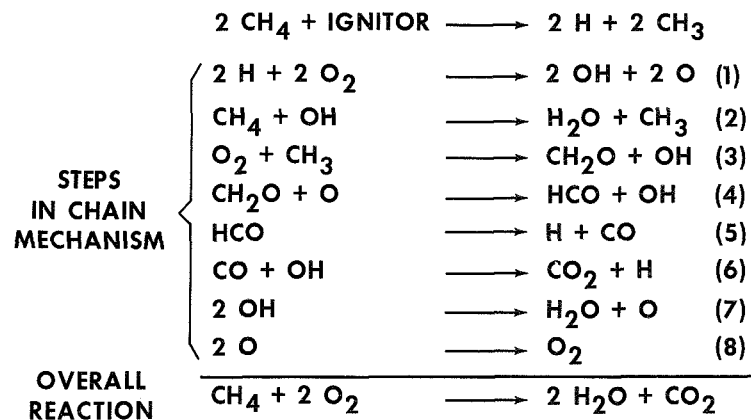


## COMBUSTION OF METHANE

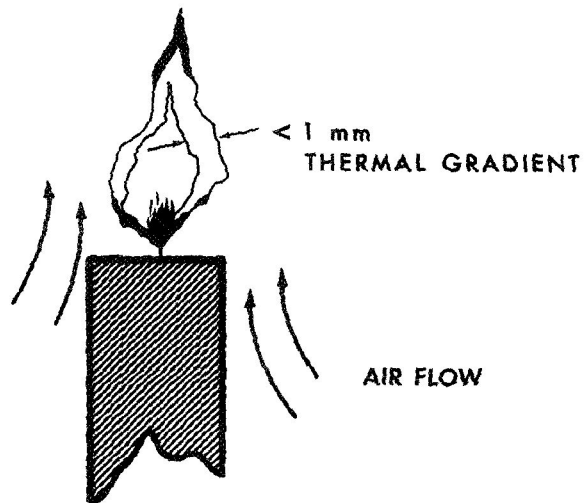


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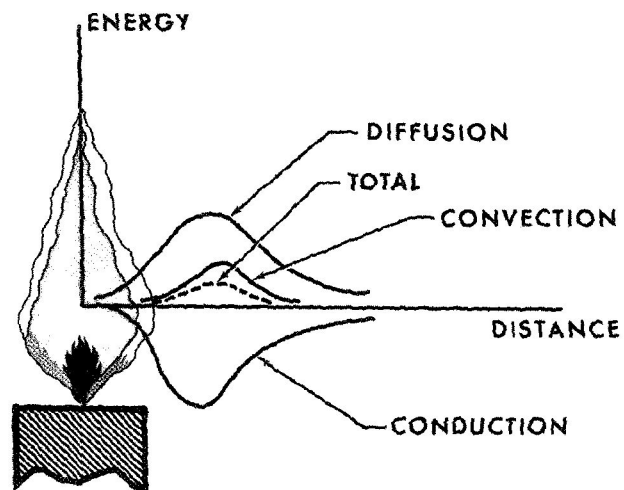
## METHANE IGNITION

CHAIN MECHANISM FOR  
METHANE COMBUSTION

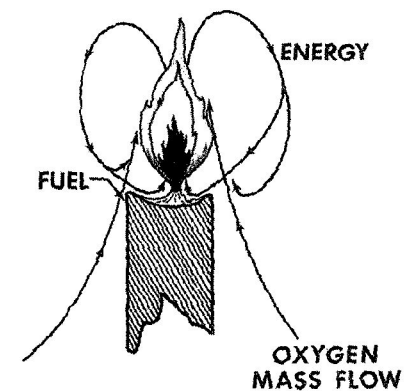
## CANDLE FLAME ON EARTH

MATERIAL AND ENERGY  
TRANSPORT FACTORS  
TO PRODUCE FLAME

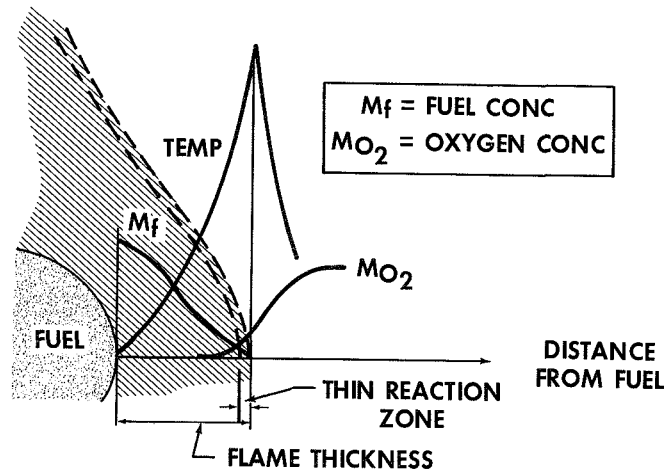
- DIFFUSION
- CONVECTION
- VISCOSITY
- CONDUCTION
- RADIATION

ENERGY TRANSPORT FROM  
A CANDLE FLAME ON EARTH

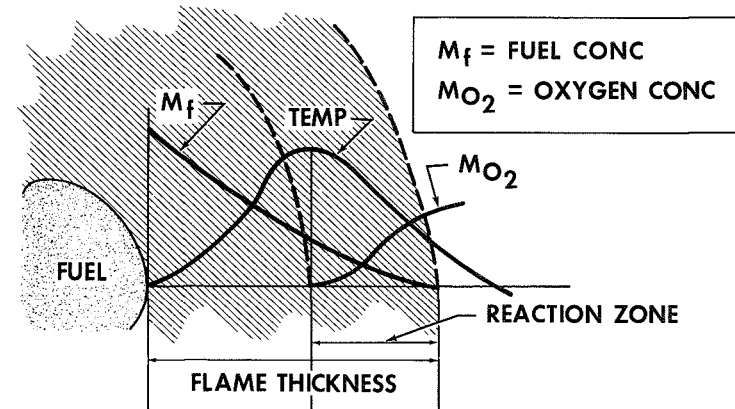
## ILLUSTRATION OF FEEDBACK



## COMBUSTION UNDER CONVECTION CONDITIONS



## POSTULATED COMBUSTION CONDITIONS UNDER ZERO GRAVITY



## GROSS FACTORS IN THE COMBUSTION PROCESS

- FUEL COMPOSITION
- EXPOSED AREA
- DENSITY OF FUEL
- GEOMETRY OF FUEL
- CONVECTIVE ENVIRONMENT
- DIFFUSION
- CONDUCTION



# MANNED SPACECRAFT NONMETALLIC MATERIALS FLAMMABILITY

## SELECTION CRITERIA AND REQUIREMENTS

By C. J. Katsikas and J. H. Levine  
NASA Manned Spacecraft Center

### ABSTRACT

This paper reviews the criteria and requirements governing the selection of nonmetallic materials for use in manned spacecraft to control potential fire hazards. To illustrate how these criteria were met, the development of the NASA Manned Spacecraft Center (MSC) flammability requirements are discussed and traced through their historical evolution. The events that dictated the changes that have taken place are also covered.

The current nonmetallic material requirements are presented and include the following areas:

1. A new approach, nonmetallic materials usage categories, emphasizes acceptance based on the location and the amount of the nonmetallic materials used in the spacecraft, as well as the fire-resistant performance characteristics of the materials.
2. The importance of the test ignitor is presented, and the current standard ignitor and several special-usage ignitors are described.
3. The flammability screening and application tests are presented, and their importance in the final verification and acceptance of non-metallic materials is emphasized.

Significant features of the Nonmetallic Materials Design Guidelines and Test Data Handbook are discussed. This handbook includes materials selection guidelines, test requirements, and materials control programs. The handbook also includes an extensive compilation of materials test results and performance characteristics obtained from tests conducted over the past several years. Finally, a brief discussion of the application of the MSC criteria and requirements to nonaerospace areas is given.

## GENERAL FIRE CONTROL CRITERIA

- MINIMIZE IGNITION SOURCES
- PREVENT PROPAGATION
- PREVENT STRUCTURAL DAMAGE
- ASSURE CREW SAFETY
- ASSURE MISSION SUCCESS OR SAFE ABORT

## SCOPE OF TALK

- DEVELOPMENT OF REQUIREMENTS
- CURRENT REQUIREMENTS
- SOURCES OF TEST DATA

## DEVELOPMENT OF REQUIREMENTS

- BACKGROUND EXPERIENCE
- INPUTS FROM INDUSTRY, NASA, OTHER AGENCIES
- MORE RESTRICTIVE REQUIREMENTS
- VIABLE REQUIREMENTS DOCUMENT

## CURRENT REQUIREMENTS

- SPACECRAFT NONMETALLIC MATERIAL USAGE (LOCATION AND AMOUNT)
- TEST IGNITION SYSTEM
- TEST REQUIREMENTS

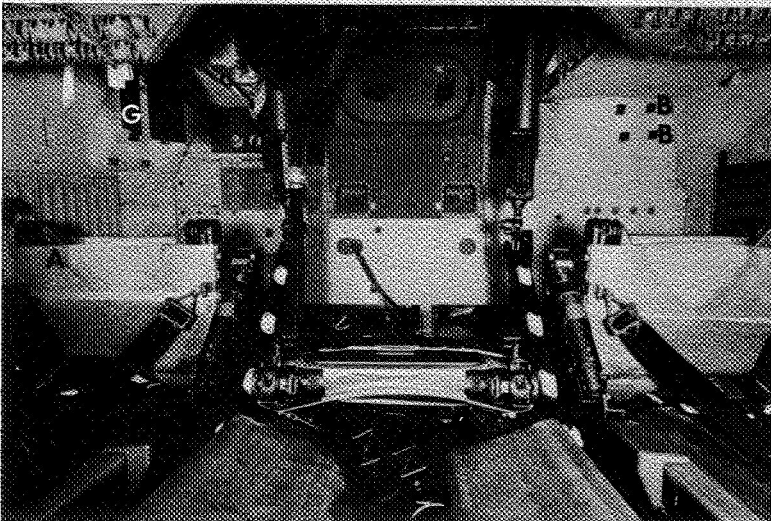
## NONMETALLIC MATERIALS USAGE

- AMOUNT
- LOCATION
- APPLICATION
- FLAMMABILITY PROPERTIES

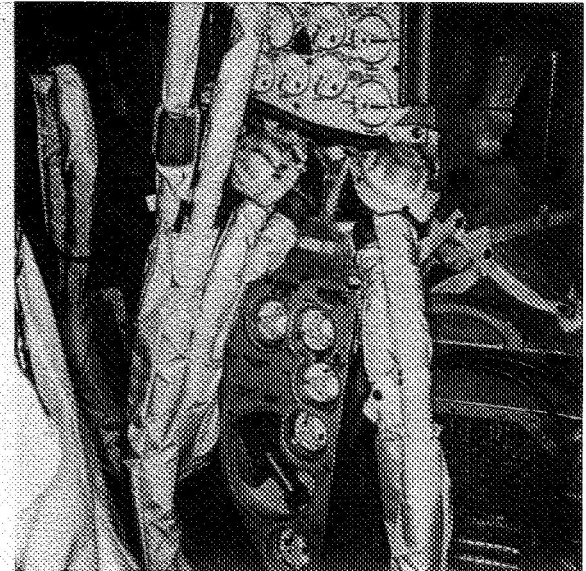
## NONMETALLIC MATERIALS USAGE CATEGORIES

<u>CATE- GORY</u>	<u>MATERIAL USAGE</u>	<u>PRIMARY ACCEPTANCE CRITERIA</u>
A	MAJOR EXPOSED	SELF-EXTINGUISHING
B	MINOR EXPOSED	NO PROPAGATION
C	SUIT LOOP	SELF-EXTINGUISHING
D	HIGH PRESSURE OXYGEN SYSTEMS	NO DETONATION NO PROPAGATION
E	SEALED CONTAINERS	DO NOT BURST CONTAINER NO FLAME
F	VENTED CONTAINERS	DO NOT BURST CONTAINER NO FLAME
G	NONFLIGHT EQUIPMENT	DEPEND ON SPECIFIC USAGE
H	IN AND AROUND SPACECRAFT OUTSIDE OF CREW BAY	DEPEND ON USAGE

### COMMAND MODULE INTERIOR

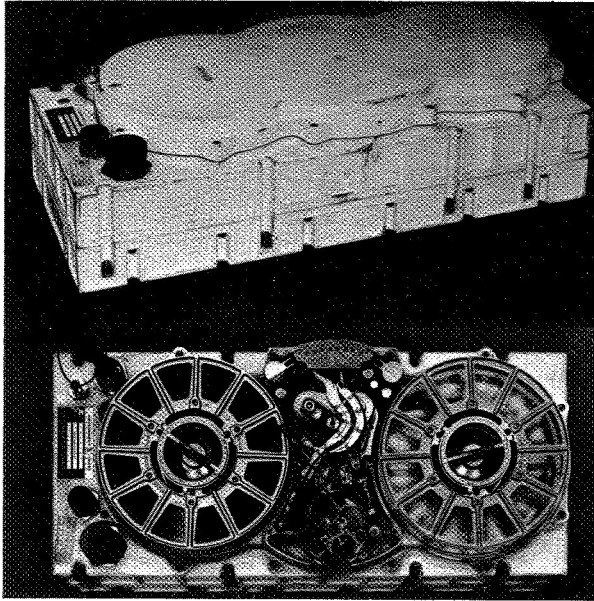


### LUNAR MODULE SUIT LOOP CATEGORY C



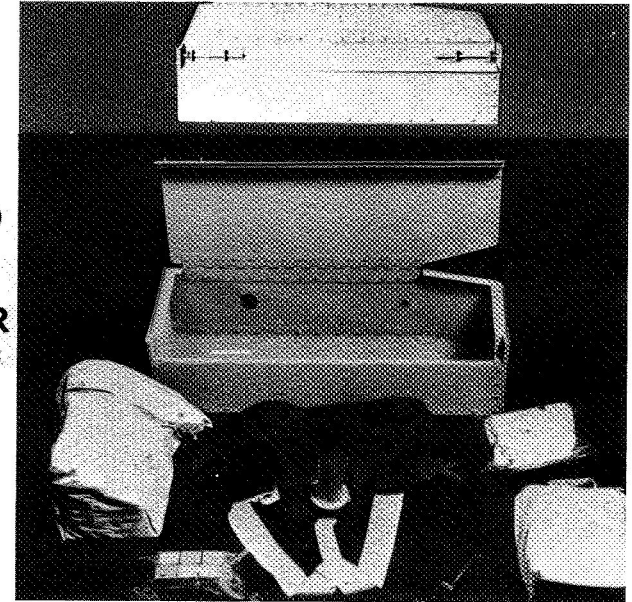
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**SEALED  
CONTAINER  
DATA  
RECORDING  
SYSTEM  
CATEGORY E**



NASA-S-70-2359-X

**COMMAND  
MODULE  
VENTED  
CONTAINER  
CATEGORY F**



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**TEST REQUIREMENTS**

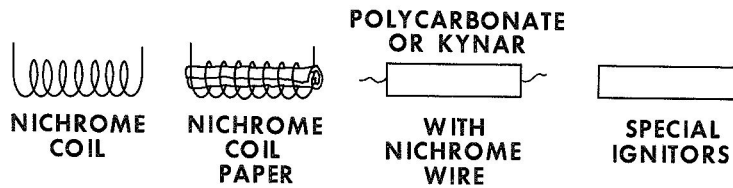
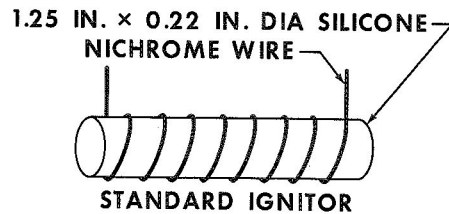
- CHAMBERS AND SPECIAL EQUIPMENT
- TEST ENVIRONMENT  
(USUALLY ENRICHED OXYGEN ATMOSPHERE)
- TEST IGNITION
- TEST TYPES (SCREENING AND APPLICATION)

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**TEST IGNITOR REQUIREMENTS**

- REALISTIC IGNITION SOURCE
- REPEATABLE RESULTS
- UNIFORM HEAT DISTRIBUTION AND  
TIME OF BURN CHARACTERISTICS

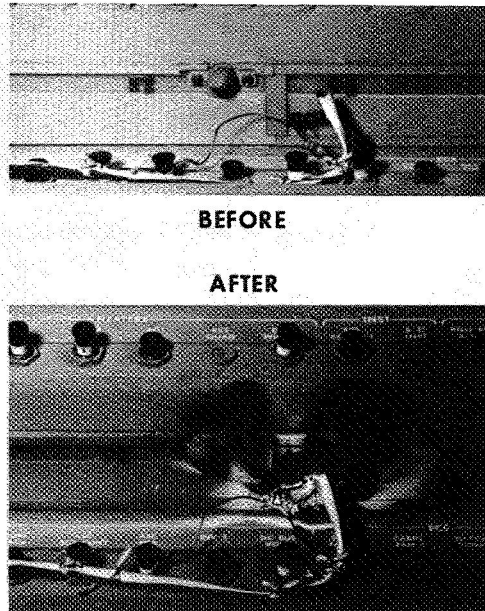
## IGNITORS



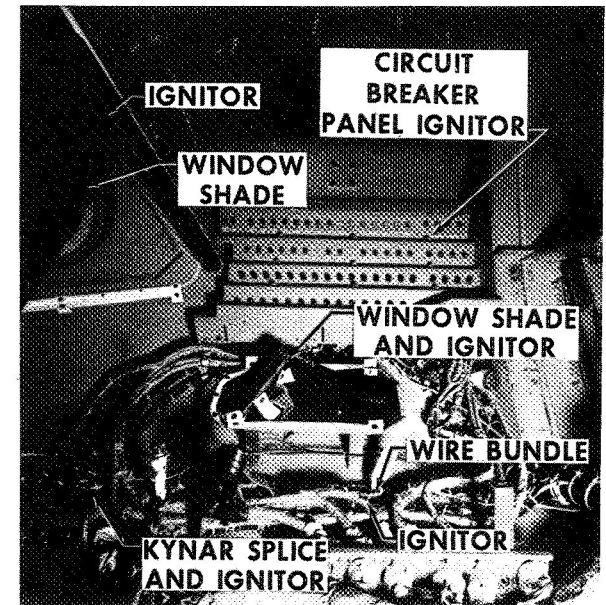
## NONMETALLIC MATERIALS FLAMMABILITY TEST TYPES

- SCREENING TESTS
  - CHARACTERISTICS
    - FLASH AND FIRE POINT
    - UPWARD AND DOWNWARD PROPAGATION RATES
    - CARBON MONOXIDE
    - TOTAL ORGANICS
    - ODOR
  - USE AS GUIDE
- APPLICATION TESTS
  - CONFIGURATION TESTS
  - SYSTEMS TESTS
  - USE AS FINAL ACCEPTANCE OF NONMETALLIC MATERIALS

## CONFIGURATION TEST LUNAR MODULE CIRCUIT BREAKER PANEL



## LUNAR MODULE SYSTEM TEST



## **NONMETALLIC MATERIALS FLAMMABILITY AND OFFGASSING TEST DATA**

- NASA CENTERS AND CONTRACTORS
- NONMETALLIC MATERIALS HANDBOOK

## **NONMETALLIC MATERIALS DESIGN GUIDELINES AND TEST DATA HANDBOOK**

- TEST DATA
  - FLAMMABILITY RATE
  - FLASH AND FIRE POINT
  - CARBON MONOXIDE
  - TOTAL ORGANIC OFFGASSING
- ANALYTICAL DISCUSSIONS
  - CRITERIA AND MATERIALS SELECTION
  - COMBUSTION
  - IGNITION
  - FIRE PREVENTION

## **SUMMARY**

- REQUIREMENTS HAVE BEEN DEFINED  
AND IMPLEMENTED
  - RECOGNITION OF IMPORTANCE  
OF USAGE CATEGORIES
  - TEST IGNITION SYSTEM
  - TEST PROCEDURES (SCREENING  
AND APPLICATION)
- VALIDITY OF TEST REQUIREMENTS HAS  
BEEN DEMONSTRATED
- NONAEROSPACE APPLICATIONS

THE DEVELOPMENT OF MATERIALS SCREENING TESTS  
FOR OXYGEN-ENRICHED ENVIRONMENTS

By R. L. Johnston and D. L. Pippen  
NASA Manned Spacecraft Center

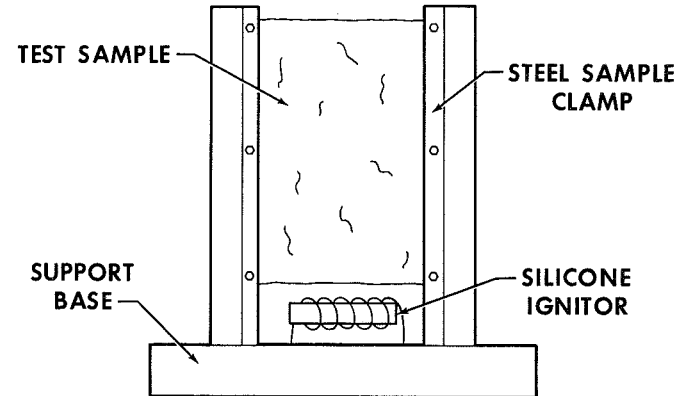
ABSTRACT

The development of materials flammability screening tests for the Apollo Program was built upon earlier test work performed on the Mercury and the Gemini programs. This background of experience was used to define the initial screening test program which led to the development of a set of practical standard tests. These tests yield sufficiently reproducible results to provide a strong foundation for the selection of materials to be used in the design of manned spacecraft. The screening tests that were devised for the Apollo Program are described and evaluated, and the current test program is discussed. Comments are made relative to use of these materials screening test techniques for nonspacecraft applications.

## USAGE CATEGORIES AND REQUIRED MATERIALS FLAMMABILITY TESTS

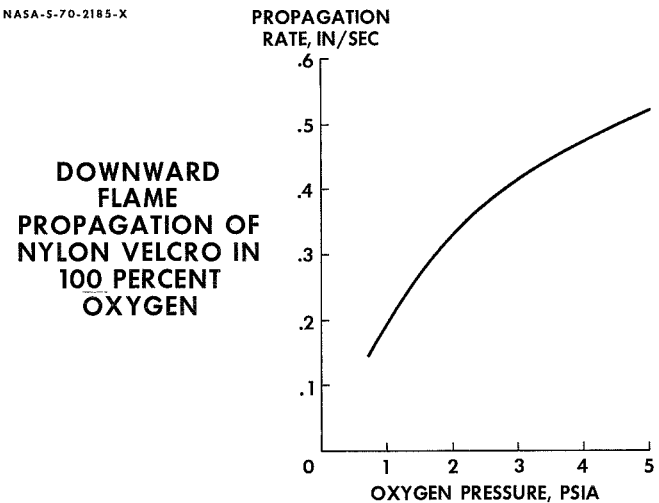
- MAJOR EXPOSED MATERIALS
  - UPWARD PROPAGATION, FLASH AND FIRE POINT
- SPECIAL APPLICATIONS AND MINOR EXPOSED MATERIALS
  - DOWNWARD PROPAGATION RATE OR ELECTRICAL POTTING AND COATING FLASH AND FIRE POINT
- CREW OXYGEN SUPPLY MATERIALS
  - UPWARD PROPAGATION, FLASH AND FIRE POINT
- HIGH PRESSURE OXYGEN SYSTEM MATERIALS
  - FLASH AND FIRE POINT, FRICTION AND IMPACT IGNITION
- MATERIALS IN SEALED CONTAINERS
- MATERIALS IN VENTED CONTAINERS

## FLAME PROPAGATION TEST FIXTURE



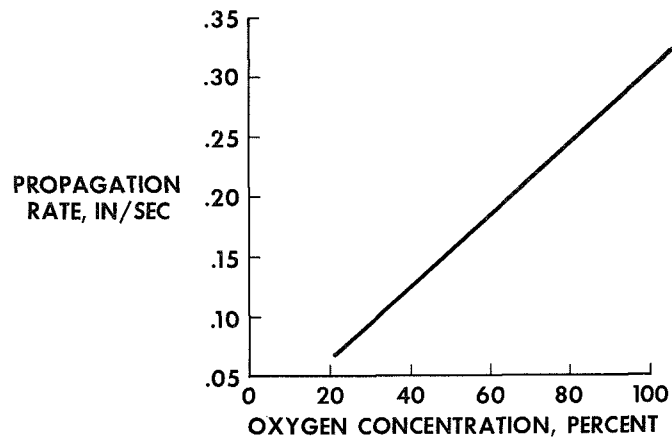
## TYPICAL UPWARD PROPAGATION TEST RESULTS

<u>MATERIAL</u>	<u>6.2 PSIA, 100 % OXYGEN TEST RESULT</u>
BETA CLOTH (FIBER GLASS)	SELF-EXTINGUISHED
TEFLON SHEET, 10 MIL	PROPAGATED
TEFLON SHEET, 40 MIL	SELF-EXTINGUISHED
NYLON CLOTH	PROPAGATED
POLYBENZIMIDAZOLE CLOTH	SELF-EXTINGUISHED
MODIFIED VITON	SELF-EXTINGUISHED





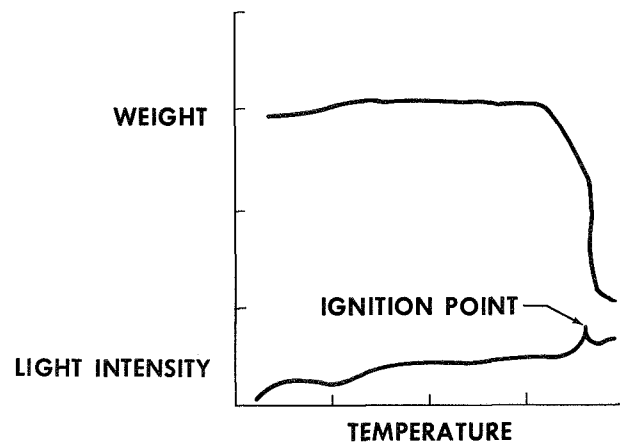
# DOWNWARD FLAME PROPAGATION OF NYLON SHEET AT 16.5 PSIA



# TYPICAL DOWNWARD PROPAGATION RATES

MATERIAL	PROPAGATION RATE, IN/SEC		
	100% O <sub>2</sub> , 16.5 PSIA	60% O <sub>2</sub> /40% N <sub>2</sub> , 16.5 PSIA	100% O <sub>2</sub> , 6.2 PSIA
SILASTIC TUBING	0.16	0.06	—
NEOPRENE TUBING	0.08	0.04	—
TEFLON SHEET	0.00	0.00	0.00
NYLON SHEET	0.30	0.19	0.22
HOLLAND CLOTH	0.41	0.26	0.39
POLYETHYLENE	0.17	0.15	—
TRILOCK PLASTIC	0.96	0.45	0.67
MYLAR SHEET	0.54	0.41	0.35

# TYPICAL THERMOGRAVIMETRIC SPARK IGNITION TEST RESULTS



## COMPONENT FLAMMABILITY TESTING

By Gary R. Primeaux  
NASA Manned Spacecraft Center

### ABSTRACT

This report describes the testing techniques used in determining the combustion characteristics of nonmetallic materials in the component configurations used in the Apollo spacecraft. Test articles were either identical to those used in the spacecraft or realistic component simulations. Tests were set up to represent accurately all of the worst-case conditions which a component would encounter during actual use. These tests covered five categories: (1) Electrical Wire Insulation and Accessories, (2) Electrical Component Pottings and Coatings, (3) Nonmetallic Components in Vented Containers, (4) Nonmetallic Components in Sealed Containers, and (5) Electrical Assemblies, Subsystems, and Systems. The test program provided flammability data quickly for the analysis of a large number of nonmetallic materials applications. With these data, the success of the final design flammability verification of the Apollo spacecraft was significantly enhanced.

## COMPONENT TESTING OBJECTIVES

- PROVIDE NONMETALLIC MATERIALS DESIGN DATA QUICKLY AND ECONOMICALLY
- PROVIDE FLAMMABILITY CHARACTERISTICS FOR A VARIETY OF SIZES, SHAPES AND CONFIGURATIONS OF MATERIALS WHICH MAKE UP A FUNCTIONAL ASSEMBLY, SUBSYSTEM OR SYSTEM

## SELECTION OF TEST CRITERIA

- COMPONENT CONFIGURATION CONTROL
- TEST CONDITIONS
  - WORST CASE
  - IGNITION TYPES
  - GENERAL TEST REQUIREMENTS
- TEST EQUIPMENT
  - 18 INCH DIAMETER TEST CHAMBERS
  - COMMAND MODULE TEST CHAMBER
- DATA REQUIREMENTS
  - PHOTOGRAPHIC
  - TEMPERATURE AND PRESSURE MEASUREMENTS
  - COMBUSTION PRODUCTS

## COMPONENT CONFIGURATION CONTROL

- FLIGHT QUALIFIED HARDWARE
- ACCURATE TEST ARTICLE SIMULATION

## TEST CONDITIONS

- WORST CASE
  - AMOUNT OF FLAMMABLE MATERIAL
  - PROPAGATION PATHS
  - MOST SEVERE ATMOSPHERE
  - LOCATION, NUMBER AND TYPE OF IGNITION SITES

## TEST CONDITIONS

- IGNITION TYPES
  - INTERNAL - SIMULATES WIRE OR ELECTRICAL COMPONENT OVERLOAD
  - EXTERNAL - SIMULATES FLAME IMPINGEMENT FROM NEARBY SOURCE

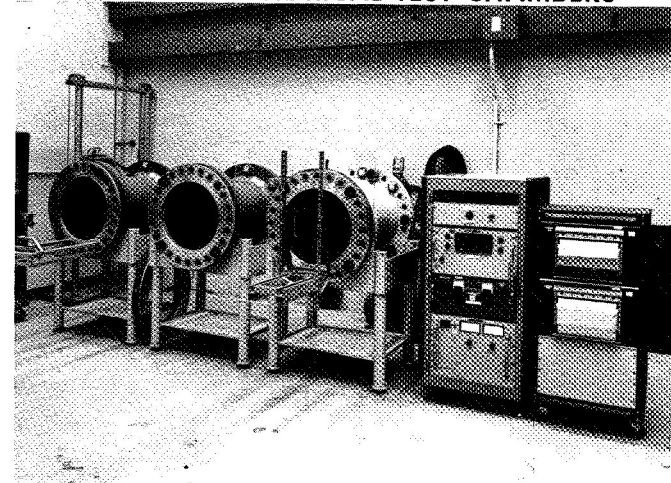
## TEST CONDITIONS

- GENERAL TEST REQUIREMENTS
  - CONFIGURATIONS AND MATERIALS MUST DUPLICATE FLIGHT ARTICLE
  - TEST ARTICLE ORIENTATION MUST REPRESENT NORMAL OPERATION
  - TEST CHAMBER VOLUME MUST BE LARGE ENOUGH TO ALLOW
    - SUFFICIENT OXYGEN FOR COMPLETE COMBUSTION
    - OBSERVATION OF EXTENT OF BURNING

## TEST CONDITIONS

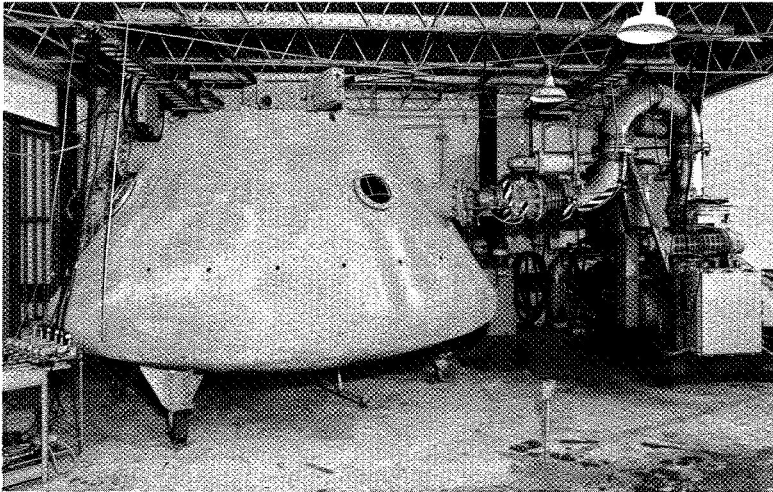
- THERMAL INTERFACES SHOULD SIMULATE
  - COLD PLATES
  - MOUNTING STRUCTURE
  - CONVECTION CAUSED BY FORCED AIR CIRCULATION
  - RADIATION CHARACTERISTICS
- ATMOSPHERIC CONDITIONS REPRESENT
  - TEMPERATURE
  - PRESSURE
  - GASEOUS CONCENTRATION

## 18-INCH CYLINDRICAL TEST CHAMBERS



NASA-S-70-1985-X

## COMMAND MODULE BOILERPLATE TEST CHAMBER



NASA-S-70-2041-X

## COMPONENT CONFIGURATION CATEGORIES

- ELECTRICAL WIRE INSULATION AND ACCESSORIES
- ELECTRICAL COMPONENT POTTINGS AND COATINGS
- NONMETALLIC COMPONENTS IN VENTED CONTAINERS
- NONMETALLIC COMPONENTS IN SEALED CONTAINERS
- ELECTRICAL ASSEMBLIES, SUBSYSTEMS, AND SYSTEMS

4-4

NASA-S-70-2157-X

## CONCLUDING REMARKS

- 800 SPACECRAFT COMPONENT FLAMMABILITY TESTS PROVIDED DATA FOR
  - SELECTION OF SPACECRAFT MATERIALS DESIGN
  - VERIFICATION OF MINOR DESIGN CHANGES
- COMPONENT TESTING USEFUL IN OTHER AREAS

## FULL-SCALE SPACECRAFT

### MOCKUP FLAMMABILITY TESTS

By R. W. Bricker, J. P. Crabb, and I. K. Spiker  
NASA Manned Spacecraft Center

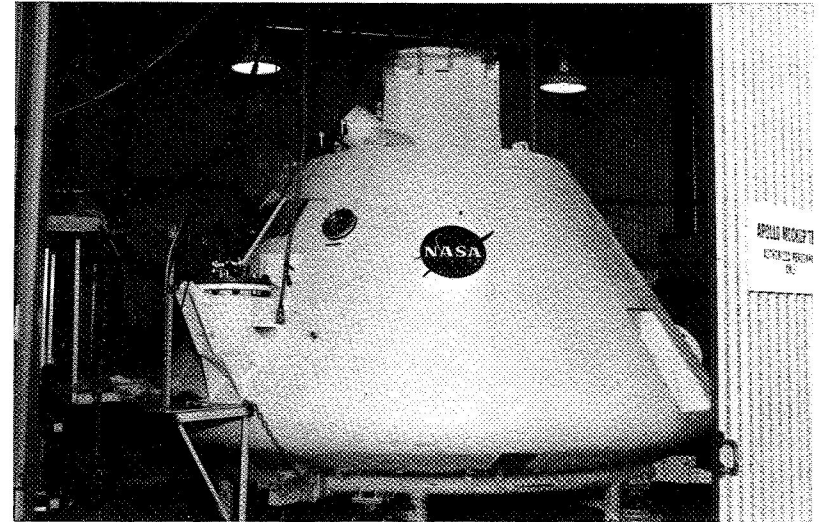
#### ABSTRACT

After extensive materials and component-level tests, a series of full-scale spacecraft-mockup flammability tests provided the final verification that the Apollo command module and lunar module were firesafe. Two possible spacecraft launch atmospheres were evaluated, and the safer of the two atmospheres was defined. An interior mockup of a command module and a lunar module was used in a series of 173 flammability tests. Tests were conducted in 5.8-psia, 6.2-psia, and 16.2-psia 100-percent-oxygen atmospheres and in a 16.2-psia 60-percent-oxygen/40-percent-nitrogen atmosphere. The latter two series of tests represented possible launch atmospheres. Fires were deliberately started in the mockups at locations selected as representative of potential ignition hazards. For each test, data were recorded to determine possible propagation paths and to identify potentially toxic products which might evolve. It was determined that, with minor changes in materials or configuration, the command module and the lunar module are firesafe in the 6.2-psia 100-percent-oxygen flight atmosphere, and the command module is firesafe in the 16.2-psia 60-percent-oxygen/40-percent-nitrogen launch atmosphere. This test series confirmed the importance of the full-scale mockup tests and demonstrated the value of several basic design approaches, such as (1) the elimination of long propagation paths, (2) the use of nonflammable coatings and containers, and (3) the use of fire breaks. Some of the tests that were conducted in support of the verification program are discussed in this paper. The applicability of full-scale-mockup flammability test techniques to areas outside the space program is also considered.

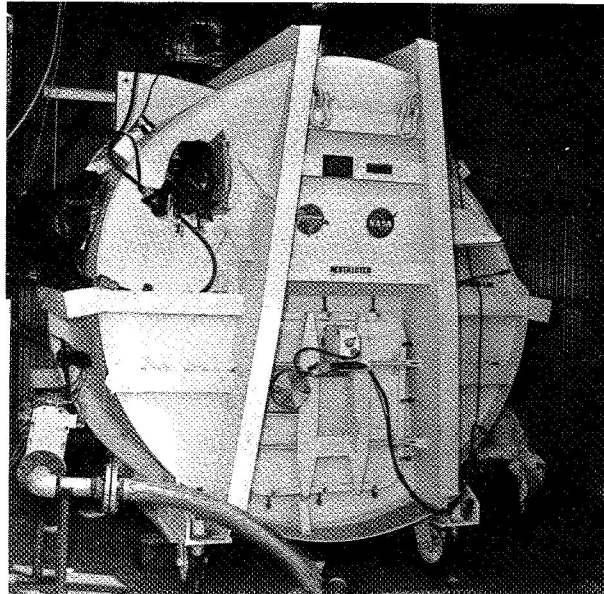
## INTRODUCTION

- FINAL VERIFICATION THAT THE CM AND LM WERE SAFE FOR FLIGHT
- SUPPORT SELECTION OF LAUNCH ENVIRONMENT

## COMMAND MODULE MOCKUP



## LUNAR MODULE MOCKUP



## TEST ENVIRONMENTS

	LM TESTS	CM TESTS		
ENVIRONMENT	5.8 PSIA 100% O <sub>2</sub>	6.2 PSIA 100% O <sub>2</sub>	16.2 PSIA 60% O <sub>2</sub> / 40% N <sub>2</sub>	16.2 PSIA 100% O <sub>2</sub>
TOTAL TESTS	72	37	34	30

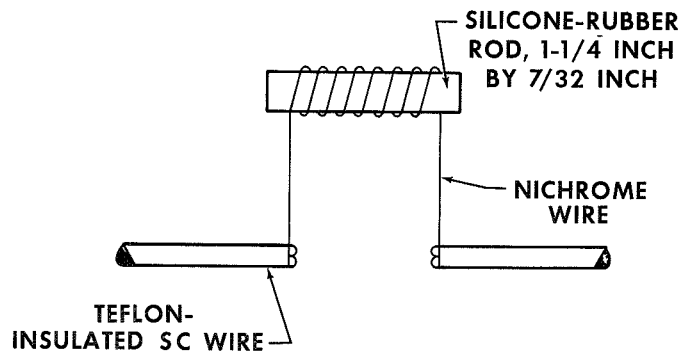
## OBJECTIVES

- EVALUATE PROPAGATION
- DETERMINE EFFECTS OF COMBUSTION ON CABIN PRESSURE AND TEMPERATURE
- IDENTIFY COMBUSTION PRODUCTS

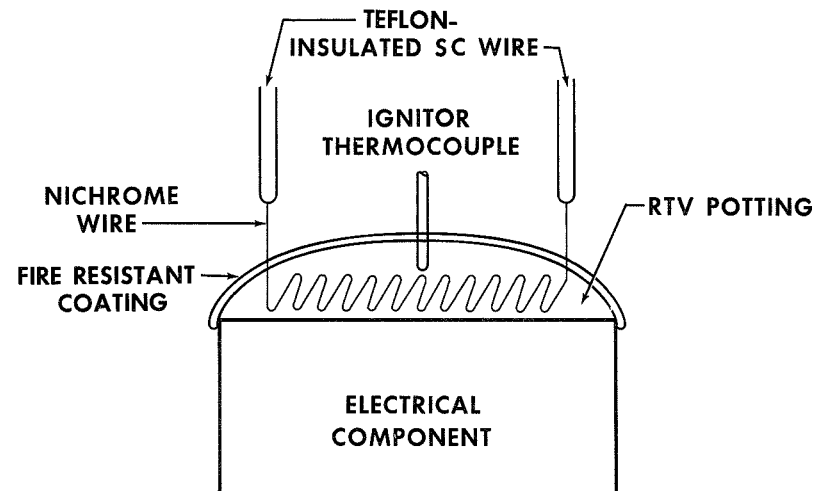
## TEST PHILOSOPHY

- SOURCE OF IGNITION INHERENT DUE TO ELECTRICAL SYSTEMS
  - PROGRAM WAS NOT AN EVALUATION OF IGNITION POSSIBILITIES
  - POSITIVE IGNITION TECHNIQUES WERE USED

## EXTERNAL IGNITOR CONFIGURATION



## INTERNAL (HIDDEN) IGNITOR CONFIGURATION

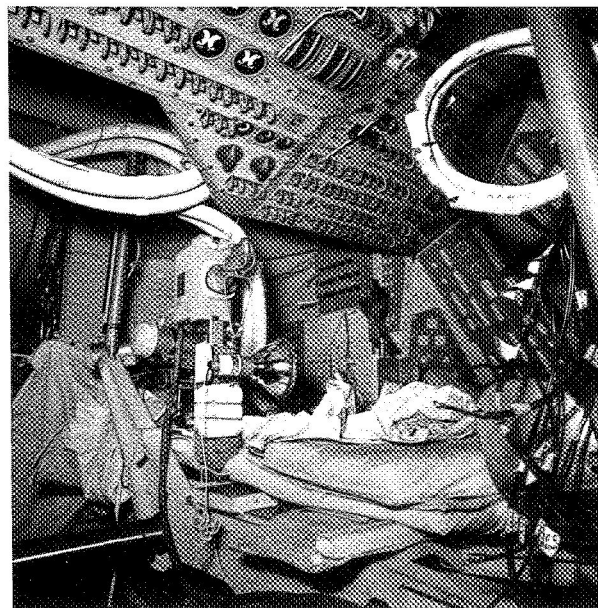




## GROUND RULES

- TRUE WORST-CASE CONFIGURATION
- SELECTED IGNITION POINTS
- TEST MONITORING
- TEST TERMINATION CONDITION

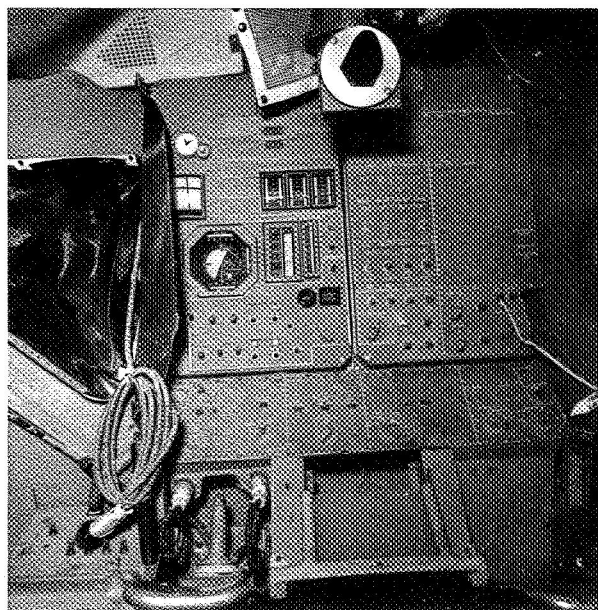
## RIGHT HAND SIDE OF COMMAND MODULE MOCKUP



## LEFT HAND SIDE OF COMMAND MODULE MOCKUP

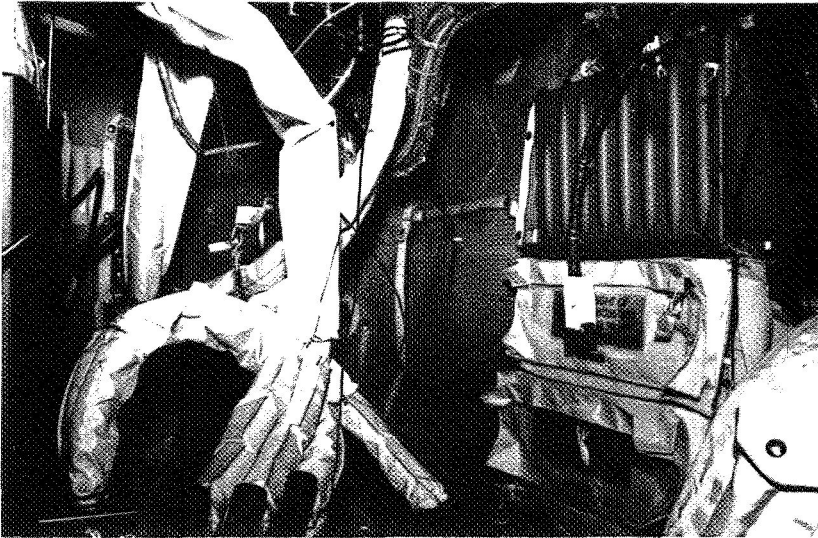


## LM MOCKUP LOOKING FORWARD



NASA-S-70-2104-X

## LM MOCKUP - LOOKING AFT



NASA-S-70-2107-X

## CRITERIA FOR SELECTION OF IGNITION LOCATIONS

- POTENTIAL PROPAGATION PATHS
- EVALUATE CHANGES
- PROXIMITY OF ALL KNOWN FLAMMABLES
- REPRESENTATIVE INSTRUMENTATION  
AND ELECTRICAL PANELS

NASA-S-70-2105-X

## TEST MONITORING

- PRESSURE AND TEMPERATURE
- STILL PHOTOS
- COLOR MOVIES
- TV
- ASTRONAUT OBSERVER

NASA-S-70-2106-X

## TEST TERMINATION RULES

- FIRE SELF-EXTINGUISHED (HOLD TEST CONDITIONS  
FOR 5 MINUTES)
- FLAME PROPAGATION BEYOND PREDETERMINED  
LIMITS (FORCED TERMINATION)
- EGRESS TIME
  - APPLICABLE TO LAUNCH ENVIRONMENTS ONLY
  - TRUE EGRESS TIME PLUS 50 PERCENT
  - TIME STARTED WHEN SMOKE FIRST OBSERVED
  - SUCCESSFUL EGRESS DEPENDENT ON FIRE  
LOCATION AND MAGNITUDE

**FLAMMABILITY TEST SUMMARY**  
**LUNAR MODULE AND COMMAND MODULE**

	LM TESTS	CM TESTS		
ENVIRONMENT	5.8 PSIA 100% O <sub>2</sub>	6.2 PSIA 100% O <sub>2</sub>	16.2 PSIA 60% O <sub>2</sub> / 40% N <sub>2</sub>	16.2 PSIA 100% O <sub>2</sub>
TOTAL TESTS	72	37	34	30
SELF EXTINGUISHED	65	34	28	15
REQUIRED TERMINATION	7	3	5	15
PERCENT TERMINATED	10	8	15	50
INSUFFICIENT EGRESS TIME			1	3
MARGINAL EGRESS TIME			1	4

**CONCLUDING REMARKS**

- **FULL-SCALE MOCKUP TESTS**
  - **COMPLEMENTED MATERIALS SCREENING AND COMPONENT TESTS**
  - **PROVIDED FINAL VERIFICATION**
    - **VERIFIED THAT THE CM AND LM WERE SAFE FOR THE PURE OXYGEN FLIGHT ENVIRONMENT**
    - **VERIFIED THAT THE CM IS SAFE FOR THE 60 PERCENT OXYGEN 40 PERCENT NITROGEN LAUNCH ENVIRONMENT**

**CONCLUDING REMARKS (CONT)**

- **DEMONSTRATED VALUE OF SEVERAL DESIGN APPROACHES**
  - **ELIMINATE LONG PROPAGATION PATHS**
  - **USE OF NONFLAMMABLE COATINGS AND CONTAINERS**
  - **USE OF FIRE BREAKS**
- **PROPER MATERIALS AND DESIGN APPROACHES MINIMIZE THE NEED FOR REPETITIVE FULL-SCALE MOCKUP TESTS**
- **FULL-SCALE MOCKUP TESTING APPLICABLE TO AIRCRAFT, SURFACE, AND UNDERWATER VEHICLES**

SESSION II

MATERIALS DEVELOPMENT

Session Chairman: Edward L. Hays

# NONMETALLIC MATERIALS DEVELOPMENT

## FOR SPACECRAFT APPLICATIONS

By Frederic S. Dawn  
NASA Manned Spacecraft Center

### ABSTRACT

The purpose of this paper is to present the specialized requirements of manned space flight in the category of nonmetallic materials, to give a brief history of materials development within the space program, to touch on the kinds of materials developed to date, and to describe a few of the new materials on the horizon. An overall view of the nonmetallic materials development work which has been conducted by NASA over the last several years is presented, and the properties and characteristics of selected materials are discussed. In addition, the paper considers a large variety of potential applications of flame-resistant materials developments for commercial, domestic, and military uses.

## SPACE & LUNAR SURFACE ENVIRONMENT

- **PRESSURE**  $\approx 10^{-14}$  mm Hg
- **TEMPERATURE (LUNAR SURFACE)**
  - **UPPER**  $+250^{\circ}$  F
  - **LOWER**  $-250^{\circ}$  F
- **ELECTROMAGNETIC RADIATION**
  - X-RAY
  - ULTRAVIOLET
  - VISIBLE
  - INFRARED
- **SOLAR WINDS**
- **MICROMETEORIDS**

**MATERIALS MUST WITHSTAND EXPOSURE WITHOUT  
FUNCTIONAL DEGRADATION**

## APOLLO SPACECRAFT CABIN ENVIRONMENT

<u>ENVIRONMENT</u>	<u>PRELAUNCH</u>	<u>POST LAUNCH</u>
PRESSURE, PSIA (MAX)	16.5	6.2
TEMPERATURE, °F	$70 \pm 10$	$70 \pm 10$
REL HUMIDITY, PERCENT	$30 \pm 10$	$60 \pm 10$
OXYGEN, PERCENT	60	> 95
NITROGEN, PERCENT	40	0

**MATERIALS MUST WITHSTAND EXPOSURE WITHOUT  
FUNCTIONAL DEGRADATION**

## NONMETALLIC MATERIALS TEST CRITERIA

TEST	MAXIMUM LIMIT
TOTAL ORGANICS, $\mu\text{g/g}$	100
CO, $\mu\text{g/g}$	25
ODOR, RATING	2.5
FLAMMABILITY CATEGORY A CATEGORY B	SELF EXTINGUISHING 0.3 IN/SEC

## TEST RESULTS ON TYPICAL APOLLO NONMETALLIC MATERIALS

MATERIALS	TOTAL ORGANICS, $\mu\text{g/g}$	CO, $\mu\text{g/g}$	ODOR
BETA	0	2.1	1.3
TEFLON	34.0	0.7	0.9
PBI	0.4	1.7	1.5
ASBESTON	1.3	1.0	1.7
NOMEX	1.0	0.4	0.7
VITON	0.3	0.4	0.8
FLUOREL	1.0	1.2	1.3
CNR	6.0	0.8	1.8
ASTRO VELCRO	2.0	0.2	1.7

## TEST RESULTS ON TYPICAL APOLLO NONMETALLIC MATERIALS

SILICONE IGNITOR, 100% O<sub>2</sub>  
BURN RATE, IN/SEC

MATERIALS	TOP IGNITION		BOTTOM IGNITION		
	16.5 PSIA	6.2 PSIA	16.5 PSIA	*16.5 PSIA	6.2 PSIA
BETA	NI	NI	NI	NI	NI
TEFLON	SE	SE	0.55	0.30	0.30
PBI	0.20	0.16	0.41	0.35	0.30
ASBESTON	SE	SE	SE	SE	SE
NOMEX	0.33	0.16	1.00	0.60	0.60
VITON	SE	SE	SE	SE	SE
FLUOREL	SE	SE	SE	SE	SE
CNR	SE	SE	SE	SE	SE
VELCRO**	0.02	0.01	0.50	0.37	0.35

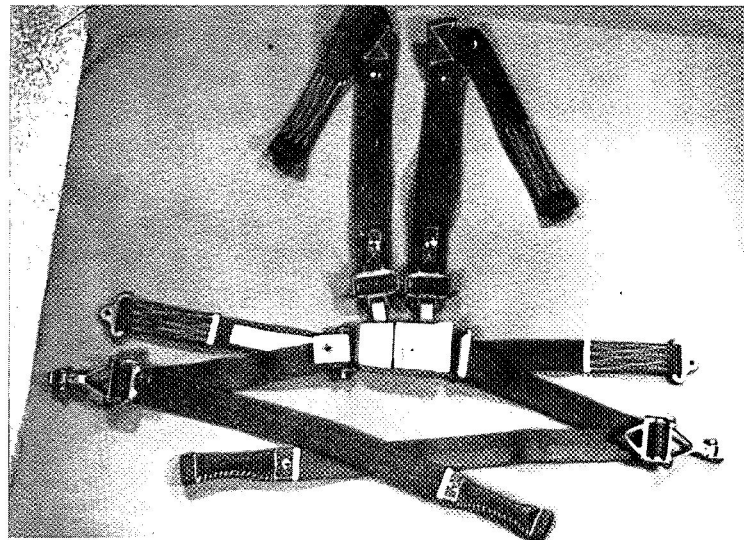
\* 60% O<sub>2</sub> 40% N<sub>2</sub>

SE = SELF EXTINGUISHING

NI = NO IGNITION

\*\*ASTRO VELCRO

## POLYBENZIMIDAZOLE CREWMAN RESTRAINT HARNESS



## PROPERTIES OF FIBROUS MATERIALS

PROPERTIES	BETA	PBI	TEFLON	ASBESTON	NOMEX
TENSILE STRENGTH, G/DENIER	15	4.5	1.4	2.5 - 3.1	5.5
ELONGATION, %	4	12-13	15	2 - 3	17
SPECIFIC GRAVITY	2.45	1.34	2.1	2.10 - 2.80	1.38
SERVICE TEMPERATURE, °F	-300 - +900	-65 - +800	-400 - +500	-200 - +2400	-65 - +500
THERMAL CONDUCTIVITY, BTU/FT <sup>2</sup> /°F/HR/IN	4.97	0.9	1.7	0.59	0.9

## TYPICAL APPLICATIONS FOR FIBROUS MATERIALS

MATERIALS	TYPICAL APPLICATIONS
POLYBENZIMIDAZOLE (PBI)	HARNESSES, TETHERS, STRAPS, BELTS, CONTAINERS
TEFLON	FLIGHT COVERALL, ABRASION RESISTANT PATCHES FOR SPACE SUITS
ASBESTON	FLAME BARRIER OR THERMAL INSULATION
NOMEX	COMFORT LINER FOR APOLLO SPACE SUIT

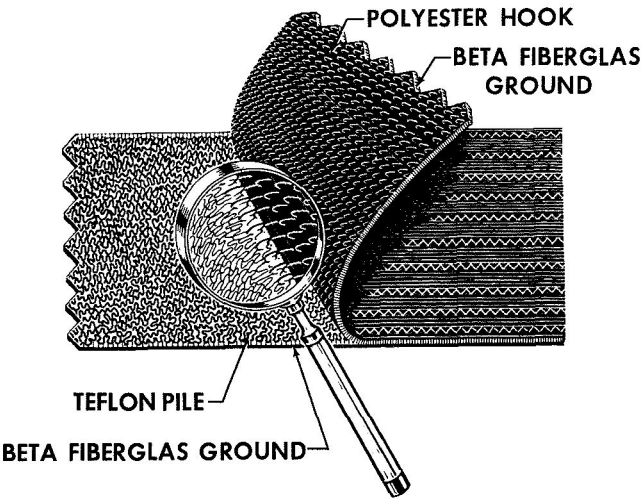
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PROPERTIES OF ELASTOMERIC MATERIALS

PROPERTIES	FLUOREL	VITON	CARBOXY NITROSO RUBBER
SPECIFIC GRAVITY	1.85	1.97	1.93
SERVICE TEMPERATURE, °F	-40 TO 400	-65 TO 400	-47 TO 375
TENSILE, STRENGTH PSI	1500-2500	1500-2500	1000-2200
ELONGATION, PERCENT	125-300	150-300	250-500
DUROMETER (SHORE A)	60-90	60-90	60-80
THERMAL CONDUCTIVITY, BTU/FT <sup>2</sup> /°F/HR/IN	0.957	0.702	0.867

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ASTRO VELCRO



NASA-S-70-1701-X

FLAME PROPAGATION RATE OF VELCRO

BOTTOM IGNITION, IN/SEC

SILICONE IGNITOR

VELCRO TYPE (ENGAGED)	ENVIRONMENT	
	6.2 PSIA 100% O <sub>2</sub>	16.5 PSIA 60% O <sub>2</sub> /40% N <sub>2</sub>
NYLON	1.66	1.66
ASTRO	0.35	0.37

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TEST RESULTS ON NEW MATERIALS

MATERIALS	TOTAL ORGANIC, µg/g	CO, µg/g	ODOR
DURETTE	0.6	3.0	0.2
POLYSULFONE	0.9	0.2	1.0
FL URETHANE	89.0	8.0	0.6
POLYQUINOXALINE	0.5	4.3	1.3
ASBESTOS FOAM	4.1	3.7	1.7
FYPRO	1.0	4.0	0.7



**TEST RESULTS ON NEW MATERIALS**

SILICONE IGNITOR, 100% O<sub>2</sub>  
BURN RATE, IN/SEC

MATERIALS	TOP IGNITION		BOTTOM IGNITION		
	16.5 PSIA	6.2 PSIA	16.5 PSIA	*16.5 PSIA	6.2 PSIA
DURETTE	0.41	0.31	1.00	0.55	0.41
POLY-SULFONE	0.02	0.01	0.10	0.04	0.03
FL. URETHANE	SE	SE	-	SE	SE
POLYQUINOXALINE	SE	SE	0.02	SE	SE
ASBESTOS FOAM	NI	NI	NI	NI	NI
FYPRO	0.45	0.33	1.25	0.83	0.71

\* 60% O<sub>2</sub> 40% N<sub>2</sub>  
SE = SELF EXTINGUISHING  
NI = NO IGNITION

**POTENTIAL APPLICATIONS OF  
FLAME-RESISTANT AEROSPACE MATERIALS****FIBROUS MATERIALS**

MATERIALS	MILITARY
BETA PBI ASBESTON NOMEX DURETTE FYPRO	FIRE PROTECTIVE CLOTHING PARACHUTES AND LINES BELTS AND STRAPS TENTS AND TARPAULINS

**POTENTIAL APPLICATIONS OF  
FLAME-RESISTANT AEROSPACE MATERIALS****FIBROUS MATERIALS**

MATERIALS	COMMERCIAL
BETA PBI ASBESTON NOMEX DURETTE FYPRO	THERMAL INSULATIONS HOSPITAL AND INDUSTRIAL UNIFORMS VEHICLE UPHOLSTERY PACKAGING, SEAT BELTS, TENTS, CARGO COMPARTMENT LINERS CARGO AND BOAT COVERS, CARPETS AND CURTAINS RACING CAR DRIVERS COVERALLS

**POTENTIAL APPLICATIONS OF  
FLAME-RESISTANT AEROSPACE MATERIALS****FIBROUS MATERIALS**

MATERIALS	HOUSEHOLD
BETA PBI ASBESTON NOMEX DURETTE FYPRO	CLOTHING CURTAINS, DRAPERIES BED SPREADS, BLANKETS DECORATIVE PANELS SEWING THREADS MATTRESSES, SOFA TICKINGS TABLE CLOTHS UPHOLSTERY, CARPETS AND RUGS

**POTENTIAL APPLICATIONS OF  
FLAME-RESISTANT AEROSPACE MATERIALS**  
ELASTOMERIC MATERIALS

MATERIALS	MILITARY
FLUOREL VITON CNR ASBESTOS FOAMS FLUORINATED SILICONE FLUORINATED URETHANE	AIRCRAFT INTERIOR COATINGS GAS MASKS SURVIVAL EQUIPMENT COATINGS FOR CARGO COVERS SHIELDS FOR HAZARDOUS OPERATIONS TENTS

**POTENTIAL APPLICATIONS OF  
FLAME-RESISTANT AEROSPACE MATERIALS**  
ELASTOMERIC MATERIALS

MATERIALS	COMMERCIAL
FLUOREL VITON CNR ASBESTOS FOAMS FLUORINATED SILICONE FLUORINATED URETHANE	HEAT INSULATIONS, CEILING TILES, WALL PANELS, FLOOR COVERINGS, WIRE AND CABLE INSULATIONS AUTOMOTIVE PARTS AND ACCESSORIES WAREHOUSE FIREPROOF COATINGS FUEL PIPELINE INSULATIONS FURNITURE AND FIXTURE COVERS HOSPITAL EQUIPMENT MINE SAFETY APPLIANCES PARTS BUILDING INSULATIONS, PACKAGING, TOYS, FR COATINGS FOR HOTELS, HOSPITALS, SCHOOLS, PUBLIC BUILDINGS, MAIL BAG COATINGS

**POTENTIAL APPLICATIONS OF  
FLAME-RESISTANT AEROSPACE MATERIALS**  
ELASTOMERIC MATERIALS

MATERIALS	HOUSEHOLD
FLUOREL VITON CNR ASBESTOS FOAMS FLUORINATED SILICONE FLUORINATED URETHANE	FOAM PILLOWS AND MATTRESSES DECORATIVE COATINGS FOR WALLS AND PANELS CEILING TILES WALL PANELS FLOOR COVERINGS

**POTENTIAL APPLICATIONS OF  
FLAME-RESISTANT AEROSPACE MATERIALS**  
PAPER

COMMERCIAL & HOUSEHOLD	MILITARY
WALL PAPER DECORATIVE PANELS DECORATIVE TILES NEWSPAPERS, CARD BOARDS BOOKS, WRAPPING PAPERS LEGAL DOCUMENTS	LOG BOOKS FLIGHT MANUALS MAPS CHARTS

## DEVELOPMENT AND APPLICATIONS OF FLUOREL

By Daniel E. Supkis  
NASA Manned Spacecraft Center

### ABSTRACT

The need for a nonflammable elastomer for use in the Apollo spacecraft is discussed. A brief development history of Fluorel, a copolymer of hexafluoropropene and vinylidene fluoride, is presented. The solubility of Fluorel and the usefulness of the Fluorel solution for conformable coating are discussed, and handling precautions are defined. Additives to and adhesion of the Fluorel solution are treated briefly. Many Apollo spacecraft applications of Fluorel, with emphasis on use as a conformable coating, are illustrated. A more practical approach to future aerospace uses is examined. The versatility and the superior physical properties of Fluorel, when used in conjunction with other nonflammable materials, are discussed relative to potential applications in the commercial aviation, military, medical, transportation, and construction fields.

# **FLUOREL COMPOUNDS QUALIFIED FOR CATEGORY A FLIGHT USE** (MOSITES RUBBER CO)

<u>COMPOUND NUMBER</u>	<u>COMMENT</u>
1059 (3M L-2231) GUM STOCK	USED IN HOSES, HEADRESTS, CABLE COATINGS
1062 LOW DENSITY CLOSED CELL SPONGE	USED AS SHOCK ABSORBERS, SPACERS, EYE PIECE
1062C HIGH DENSITY CLOSED CELL SPONGE	
1064J HIGH DENSITY OPEN CELL SPONGE	
1066 - FILM	USED AS AN ADHESIVE AND SURFACE COATING
1071 GUM STOCK	DEVELOPED FOR LOWER OPERATING TEMPERATURES AND GREATER FLEXIBILITY
1076 GUM STOCK	
1077 GUM STOCK	
1079K GUM STOCK	
1087JJ GUM STOCK	

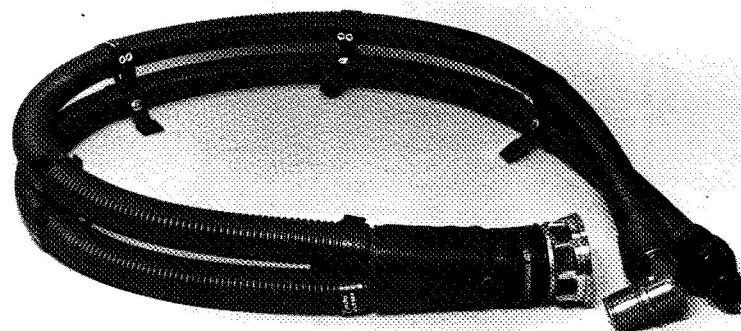
# **FLUOREL COMPOUNDS QUALIFIED FOR CATEGORY A FLIGHT USE** (RAYBESTOS - MANHATTAN INC)

<u>COMPOUND NUMBER</u>	<u>COMMENT</u>
L-3217 (3M L-2231) GUM STOCK	USED IN HOSES, HEADRESTS, CABLE COATINGS
L-3251-3 GUM STOCK	USED AS SPACE SUIT BOOT SOLE
L-3203-6 FILM	USED AS AN ADHESIVE AND SURFACE COATING
RL-3492 AND RL-3550 FILMS	BASIC L-3206-6 STOCK WITH ASBESTOS ADDED - USED AS FIREPROOF COATING

# **FLUOREL APOLLO FLIGHT ITEMS**

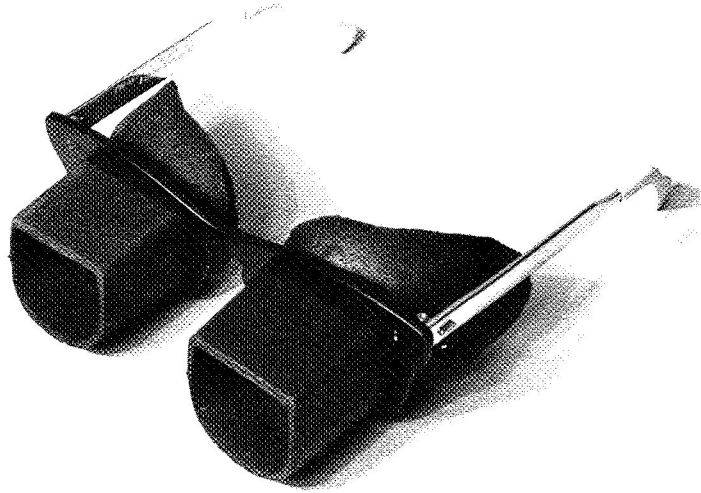
- OXYGEN UMBILICAL
- EYEGASSES
- RELIEF TUBE ASSEMBLY
- BOOT SOLE AND HEEL
- FOAM PADS AS SPACERS IN RUCKSACK
- PRESSURE GARMENT ASSEMBLY GLOVES - COATED
- VACUUM SCREEN CAPS
- OXYGEN AND SMOKE MASK HOSES
- HEAD REST PADS
- CREWMAN COMMUNICATION UMBILICAL CABLE
- FLOODLIGHT GLARE SHIELD
- COATED CUFF CARDS, APOLLO 11
- COMMAND MODULE WINDOW GASKETS
- SUN SHADES - READOUT PANELS
- GUIDANCE AND NAVIGATION GASKET
- SUIT-HARNESS BEND-RELIEF BOOT

# **FLUOREL OXYGEN UMBILICAL**



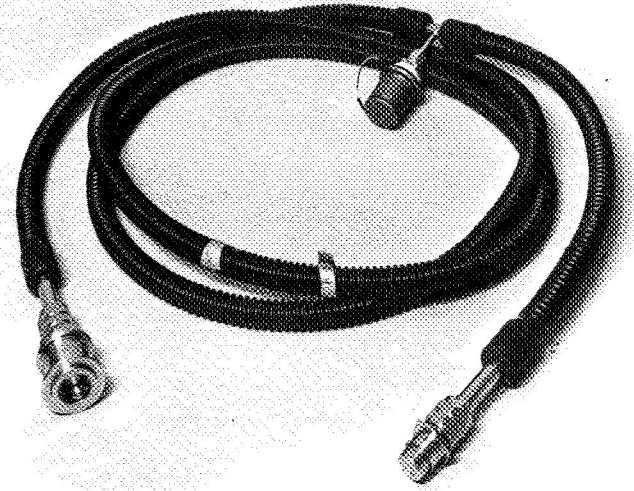
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### FLUOREL 1064J EYEPieces



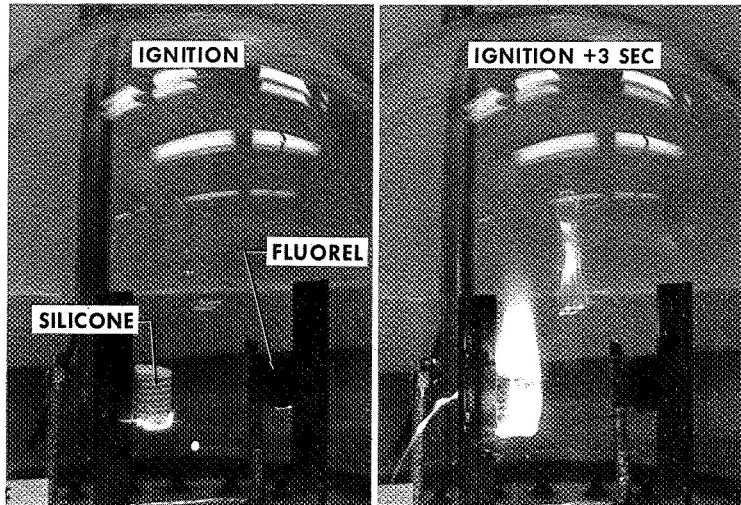
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### FLUOREL RELIEF TUBE



NASA-S-70-2149-X

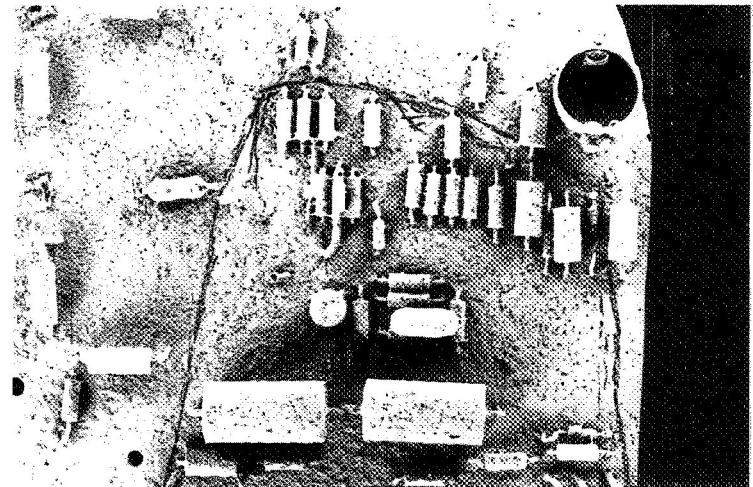
### FLAMMABILITY TEST, SILICONE VS FLUOREL HOSE 6.2 PSIA - 100 PERCENT OXYGEN



90

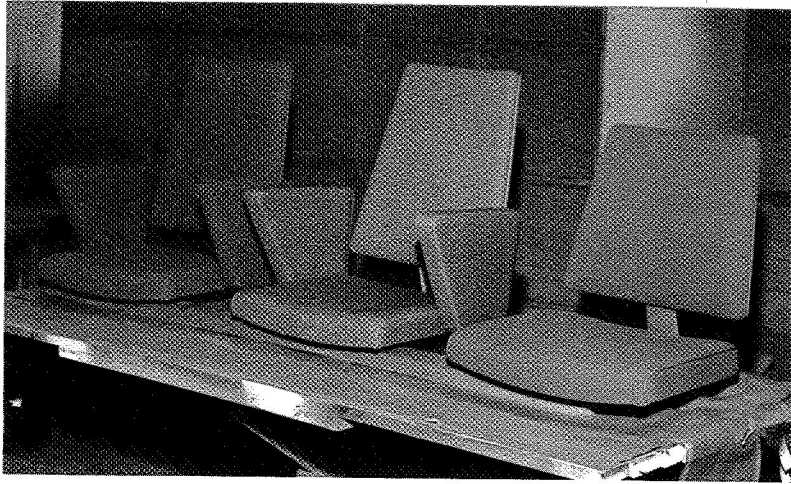
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### ELECTRICAL PANEL FLUOREL CONFORMAL COATING



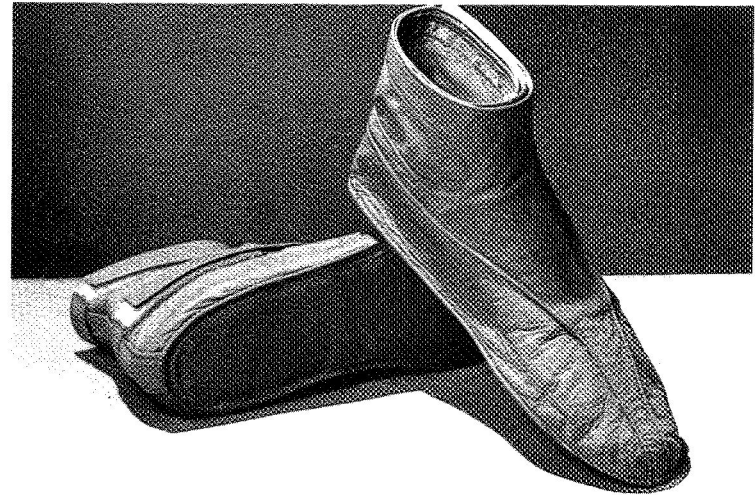
NASA-S-70-1534-X

### UPHOLSTERY FIREPROOFED WITH FLUOREL



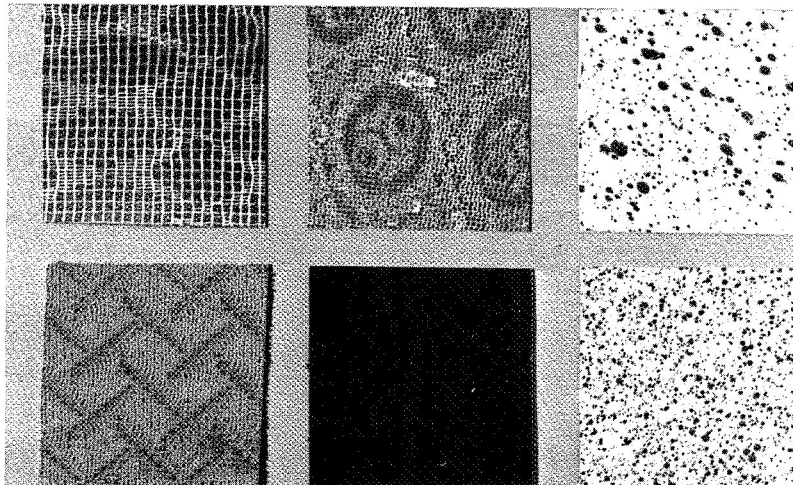
NASA-S-70-1527-X

### FLUOREL COATED LEATHER BOOTS



NASA-S-70-1424-X

### NONFLAMMABLE PANELING



# DEVELOPMENT AND APPLICATION OF FLAME-RESISTANT

## POLYMERS AND COMPOSITES

By Dale G. Sauers  
NASA Manned Spacecraft Center

### ABSTRACT

This paper discusses the efforts and accomplishments of the aerospace industry in the areas of flame-resistant elastomers and structural composites. Elastomers discussed include carboxy nitroso rubber, fluorosilicones, and recently developed flame-resistant Viton elastomers. Flame-resistant Viton gum stocks and sprayable coatings that are effective in protecting flammable substrates in air and pure-oxygen environments are discussed. The principle structural composites discussed are polyimide and polyquinoxaline matrices with glass-fiber reinforcements. Data on other composite materials are provided. Possible industry applications for the flame-resistant elastomers and composites are discussed.

TYPICAL PROPERTIES OF  
CARBOXY NITROSO RUBBER

PROPERTY	CURE AGENT	
	CHROMIUM TRIFLUOROACETATE	DICYCLOPENTADIENE DIOXIDE
TENSILE STRENGTH, PSI	1000 - 2000	600 - 1800
ELONGATION, PERCENT	250 - 800	150 - 1200
HARDNESS, SHORE A	35 - 80	35 - 80
COMPRESSION SET, PERCENT	15 - 30	10 - 15
FLAMMABILITY	NONFLAMMABLE	NONFLAMMABLE
OFFGASSING		
ODOR	ACCEPTABLE	-
CARBON MONOXIDE	ACCEPTABLE	-
TOTAL ORGANICS	ACCEPTABLE	-

SELF-EXTINGUISHING VITONS  
WITH SILICONE IGNITOR - BOTTOM IGNITION

ENVIRONMENT		
6.2 PSIA, 100% O <sub>2</sub>	16.5 PSIA, 100% O <sub>2</sub>	16.5 PSIA, 60% O <sub>2</sub> /40% N <sub>2</sub>
238-46-2	238-012-1	238-46-2

SAMPLES 0.125 INCH THICK

FLAMMABILITY PROPERTIES  
ALL-VITON ELASTOMER SPACECRAFT HOSES

ENVIRONMENT		
6.2 PSIA, 100% O <sub>2</sub>	16.5 PSIA, 60% O <sub>2</sub> /40% N <sub>2</sub>	16.5 PSIA, 100% O <sub>2</sub>
SELF EXTINGUISHING	SELF EXTINGUISHING	BURN RATE TOO SLOW TO MEASURE

ADVANCED STRUCTURAL  
COMPOSITE MATERIALS

REINFORCEMENT FIBERS

ALUMINA	GRAPHITE
BORON	BERYLLIUM
BORON CARBIDE	SILICONE CARBIDE
BORON NITRIDE	ON TUNGSTEN
BORON ON TUNGSTEN	STAINLESS STEEL

MATRIX MATERIALS

POLYIMIDE	POLYIMIDEQUINOXALINE
POLYQUINOXALINE	POLYBENZIMIDAZOLE
POLYPHENYLQUIN- OXALINE	METALS



# **POTENTIAL APPLICATIONS STRUCTURAL COMPOSITES**

<u>INDUSTRY</u>	<u>END ITEM</u>
AIRCRAFT	AIR DISTRIBUTION SYSTEMS FIREWALLS ANTENNA SYSTEMS NACELLES DECORATIVE PANELING, OVERHEAD RACKS, AND PRINTED CIRCUITS
MARINE	VENT DUCTING CREW QUARTERS AND ENGINE ROOM STRUCTURES PLEASURE CRAFT
COMPUTER SCIENCE	COMPUTER STRUCTURES
AUTOMOTIVE	FIREWALLS
CONSTRUCTION	FIRE DOORS

DEVELOPMENT OF NONFLAMMABLE POTTING COMPOUNDS  
FOR SPACECRAFT USAGE

By Harry F. Kline  
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ABSTRACT

This paper presents a progress report on the development of nonflammable potting compounds to meet the stringent requirements for adequate dielectric materials needed for space applications. Criteria for these materials are examined in some detail, with particular emphasis on flammability resistance and electrical properties. Results of the development of silicone room-temperature-vulcanizing materials, fluorocarbons, and brominated polyesters as aerospace encapsulating potting and conformal coatings are reported. These results are related to the flame resistance of numerous formulations and also to the corresponding electrical and mechanical properties. Applications in aerospace and industrial areas are suggested.

**THERMAL PROPERTIES**

PROPERTY	REQUIREMENT	ENVIR- ONMENT
FLAMMABILITY	SELF-EXTINGUISHING	60% O <sub>2</sub> 40% N <sub>2</sub>
FLAMMABILITY	NO PROPAGATION TO ADJACENT COMPONENT	60% O <sub>2</sub> 40% N <sub>2</sub>
ORGANIC OFFGASSING	LESS THAN 100 µg/g TOTAL ORGANICS, LESS THAN 25 µg/g CARBON MON- OXIDE	100% O <sub>2</sub> 5 PSIA
ODOR	NO OBJECTIONABLE ODOR	100% O <sub>2</sub> , 5 PSIA
VACUUM OUTGASSING AT 10 <sup>-4</sup> mm Hg AND 250° F	NO LOSS GREATER THAN .02 PERCENT/ HR AFTER 24 HOURS	VACUUM

**MECHANICAL PROPERTIES**

## PROPERTY

- ELONGATION
- TEAR STRENGTH
- TENSILE STRENGTH
- SHRINKAGE
- COMPRESSION SET
- VISCOSITY
- ADHESION
- REPAIRABILITY
- SPECIFIC GRAVITY
- HARDNESS

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**MANUFACTURING CHARACTERISTICS**

CHARACTERISTICS	REQUIREMENT
APPLICATOR	INJECTION OR EXTRUSION GUN
CURE	> 150° F; 7 DAYS MAX
SHELF LIFE	STABLE 6 MONTHS, AIR
REPAIRABILITY	REQUIRED REWORK POSSIBILITY
POT LIFE	1 HR

**ELECTRICAL PROPERTIES**

PROPERTY	REQUIREMENT	TEST SPEC
DIELECTRIC CONSTANT	5.0	ASTM 150
POWER FACTOR	0.09	ASTM 150
DIELECTRIC STRENGTH VOLTS/MIL	500	ASTM D 749/ FTMS 406
VOLUME RESISTIVITY, OHM-cm	1 × 10 <sup>12</sup>	ASTM D 257
SURFACE RESISTIVITY, OHM-cm	1 × 10 <sup>12</sup>	ASTM D 257
ARC RESISTANCE, SEC	45	ASTM D 495/ MIL-C-5015
INSULATION RESISTANCE, MEGOHM	100K 77° F 750 212° F	MSFC-SPEC-202A
HIGH-POTENTIAL RESISTANCE	NO BREAKDOWN	MSFC-SPEC-202A
TEMPERATURE RESISTANCE, OHM-cm	1 × 10 <sup>9</sup> FROM 0 - 250° F	MSFC-SPEC-202A

### FLAME-RESISTANT SILICONES

INGREDIENTS	COMPOUND				
	SG12	SG12D	SG12F1	SG12K1	SG12K1C
DIMETHYL SILOXANE RESIN	100	100	100	100	100
CURING AGENT	10	10	10	10	10
TETRABROMOPHTHALIC ANHYDRIDE	100	-	-	-	-
GLASS FRIT 1710	65	65	-	-	-
GLASS FRIT 7570	-	65	25	50	50
AMMONIUM PHOSPHATE	-	-	-	75	-
AMMONIUM CHLORIDE	-	-	-	-	75

VALUES SHOWN ARE 100 PARTS BY WEIGHT OF ELASTOMER TO CORRESPONDING PARTS BY WEIGHT OF OTHER INGREDIENTS

### SILICONE COMPOUNDS OXYGEN FLAMMABILITY DATA

60% O<sub>2</sub>, 40% N<sub>2</sub>

FORMULA-TION NO.	PRESS., PSIA	TEST RESULTS
SG12	16.2	PASSED
SG12D	16.2	PASSED (SIMULATED CONNECTOR)
SG12F1 FTA-3	16.5	SUSTAINED COMBUSTION APPROXIMATELY 30 SECONDS (MIN)-MAXIMUM 200 SECONDS
SG12F1 FTA-3	16.5	PASSED SILICONE IGNITOR
SG12K1C	16.5	PASSED SILICONE IGNITOR
SG12K1C	16.5	PASSED WIRE OVERLOAD TO IGNITION. FAILED WIRE OVERLOAD TO FUSION

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### FLAME PROPAGATION RATE FIRE RESISTANT SILICONES

TEST ATMOSPHERE 6.2 PSIA O<sub>2</sub>

COMPOUND	PROPAGATION RATE DOWNWARD, IN/SEC
SG12	.017
SG12D	.015
SG12F1/FTA-3	S E
SG12K1	.013
SG12K1C	.008
SG12K1C/FTA-3	S E
CONVENTIONAL SILICONE	.063

### SG12F1 PROPERTIES

TENSILE, PSI	628
ELONGATION, PERCENT	440
TEAR, LB/IN	52
RESISTANCE, AT 500 VOLTS, 60 H <sub>z</sub>	>100 MΩ
DOWNWARD PROPAGATION 16.5 PSIA, 60% O <sub>2</sub> , 40% N <sub>2</sub> (WITH FTA-3 SEAL COAT)	SE
UPWARD PROPAGATION 16.5 PSIA, 60% O <sub>2</sub> , 40% N <sub>2</sub> (WITH FTA-3 SEAL COAT)	SE

# PROPERTIES OF FLUOROCARBON BASED POTTING COMPOUND (1015A) WITH SEALER COAT

<u>PROPERTY</u>	<u>TEST RESULT</u>
APPLICATION	CAN USE HYPODERMIC SYRINGE OR CAULKING GUN
REPAIR AND REWORK	CAN BE MECHANICALLY REMOVED - CAN BE PATCHED
TEMPERATURE RATING	INSULATION RESISTANCE
0°	$0.82 \times 10^{10}$ , OHMS
250° F	$2.58 \times 10^{10}$ , OHMS
MOISTURE RESISTANCE (AFTER HUMIDITY CYCLES)	$3.5 \times 10^8$ , OHMS

# AEROSPACE APPLICATIONS FOR FIRE RESISTANT SILICONES AND FLUOROCARBONS

<u>SILICONES</u>	<u>FLUOROCARBONS</u>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>POTTING ELECTRICAL COMPONENTS</li> <li>CONNECTORS</li> <li>PRINTED CIRCUIT BOARDS</li> <li>WIRE HARNESS TERMINATIONS</li> <li>SEALANT FOR INSTRUMENTS</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>SEAL COAT FOR ELECTRONICS</li> <li>COATING FOR FABRIC</li> <li>FIREPROOFING FOR HARNESS OR STRAPS</li> </ul>

# PROPERTIES OF FLUOROCARBON BASED POTTING COMPOUND (1015A) WITH SEALER COAT (CONT)

<u>PROPERTY</u>	<u>TEST RESULT</u>
DIELECTRIC CONSTANT	1.42
POWER FACTOR	.019
DIELECTRIC STRENGTH	200 VOLTS/MIL
VOLUME RESISTIVITY	$1.79 \times 10^{12}$ OHM-cm
SURFACE RESISTIVITY	$3.81 \times 10^{12}$ OHM-cm
ARC RESISTANCE	123 SECONDS
HIGH POTENTIAL	NO BREAKDOWN
SPECIFIC GRAVITY	.36
FLAMMABILITY	SE IN 16.5 PSIA - O <sub>2</sub>

# POLYESTER CONFORMAL COATING (MRTA-5) ELECTRICAL TEST RESULTS (SUMMARY)

<u>PROPERTY</u>	<u>RESULTS</u>	
DIELECTRIC CONSTANT	4.78	
POWER FACTOR	.008	
DIELECTRIC STRENGTH (V/MIL)	400	
SURFACE RESISTANCE	$4.05 \times 10^{14}$ OHM-cm	
VOLUME RES, AMB	$4.72 \times 10^{14}$ OHM-cm	
ARC RES (SECONDS)	213	
HIGH POTENTIAL RESISTANCE 60 Hz/SEC	NO BREAKDOWN	
MOISTURE RESISTANCE	<u>MIN OHMS</u>	<u>MAX OHMS</u>
• AT 76° F _____	$9.9 \times 10^6$	$1.9 \times 10^{10}$
• AT 212° F _____	$1.3 \times 10^7$	$2.6 \times 10^{10}$
TEMPERATURE RESISTANCE, VOL RESISTIVITY AT 250° F	$3.77 \times 10^{13}$ OHM-cm	

## **INDUSTRIAL APPLICATIONS FOR FIRE RESISTANT SILICONES AND POLYESTERS**

- AIRCRAFT FIREWALLS
- CONFORMAL COATINGS  
ELECTRONIC COMPONENTS
- POTTING OF ELECTRICAL  
COMPONENTS
- ELECTRONIC COMPONENTS  
IN HYPERBARIC CHAMBERS
- COMMERCIAL TV ELECTRONIC  
EQUIPMENT

NEW MATERIALS FOR MANNED SPACECRAFT,  
AIRCRAFT, AND OTHER APPLICATIONS

By Matthew I. Radnofsky  
NASA Manned Spacecraft Center

ABSTRACT

While the overall objectives of fireproofing a spacecraft cabin and an aircraft interior are similar, there are some significant operational and design differences that merit consideration in the selection of materials. One of these differences is the fact that the spacecraft employs a closed environmental system, whereas the aircraft utilizes a semiclosed system. This makes considerations of odor and toxic offgassing much more critical for the spacecraft. In addition, spacecraft to date have operated with a 100-percent oxygen environment, whereas most aircraft operate with an air environment. This factor has limited the amount of materials which are acceptable for spacecraft usage since there are few useable materials that will not burn in oxygen. On the other hand, there are important considerations for selection of materials for aircraft that are of lesser importance to the spacecraft. Foremost among these are durability and aesthetic quality. In this area, functional utility for the duration of a single mission is basically all that has been required for the spacecraft. Aircraft, however, require nonmetallic materials that will withstand the rigors of repetitive usage and which are aesthetically pleasing. With the advent of longer space missions, the differences in these requirements for aircraft and spacecraft become smaller. Despite the noted differences in end-item usage, there are obvious and immediate applications of spacecraft nonmetallic materials for aircraft interiors, for uses in other types of vehicles, and for other commercial and domestic uses; this is particularly so amongst the more recently developed fire-resistant materials. This paper discusses recent fire-resistant nonmetallic-materials developments which should have widespread applicability. The presentation is accompanied by a descriptive film which vividly illustrates the excellent fire resistance of these new materials.

### FABRICS FOR WHICH SUMMARY DATA ARE AVAILABLE

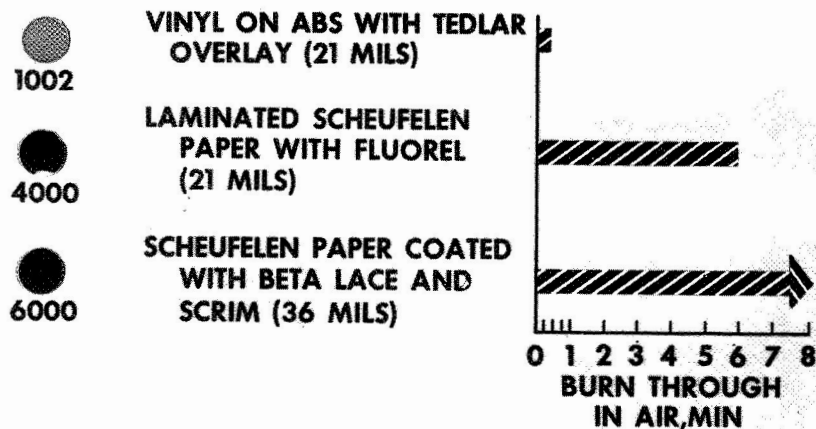
- NYLON
- BETA 4190B/TEFLON
- BETA 4484/TEFLON
- TEFLON-BLEACHED T162-42
- TEFLON-NATURAL (TFE .250 IN. THICK)
- NOMEX-UNTREATED (H T 90-40)
- NOMEX-TREATED-POCl<sub>3</sub> Br
- NOMEX-TREATED-ADP/FLUOREL (L-3203-6)
- PBI-UNTREATED
- PBI-TREATED-POCl<sub>3</sub>
- PBI-TREATED-(MONSANTO)
- DURETTE X-400
- DURETTE X-410
- DURETTE X-420
- NICKEL CHROMIUM (CHROMEL-R)
- STAINLESS STEEL (KARMA CLOTH)
- FYPRO

### FABRIC DATA AVAILABLE

- COMBUSTION RATES
- PHYSICAL CHARACTERISTICS
- ODOR/CO/TOTAL ORGANICS
- COST
- STATUS
- AVAILABILITY
- SUPPLIER

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### COMPARATIVE FIREPROOF CHARACTERISTICS OF AIRCRAFT DECORATIVE PANELS



### COMPARATIVE CHARACTERISTICS OF AIRCRAFT DECORATIVE PANELS

MATERIAL	WEIGHT, OZ/YD	THICKNESS, IN.	PUNCTURE, LB
1002	20.4	.012	54
4000	18.7	.020	9.5
6000	25.6	.036	22.0

- 1002 - VINYL ON ABS WITH TEDLAR OVERLAY  
 4000 - LAMINATED SCHEUFELN PAPER WITH FLUOREL  
 6000 - COATED WITH BETA LACE AND SCRIM



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**COMPARATIVE CHARACTERISTICS  
OF AIRCRAFT DECORATIVE PANELS  
(CONT)**

WAX PICK	FLEXIBILITY, GRAMS	BREAKING STRENGTH, LB
26	5.7	70
26	21.3	43
20A	49.0	118

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**MATERIAL STAIN EVALUATION  
STAINING AGENTS TESTED**

- MAYONNAISE
- OIL
- BUTTER
- CATSUP
- WRITING INK
- MILK
- BOURBON
- NICOTINE
- ORANGE JUICE
- COFFEE
- MUSTARD
- ALCOHOL
- HAIR TONIC
- LIPSTICK
- COKE
- NAIL POLISH
- BALL POINT
- CRAYONS
- CLEANING AGENTS

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**MATERIAL STAIN EVALUATION  
MATERIALS TESTED**

- ABS VINYL WITH TEDLAR OVERLAY
- VINYL ON ABS WITH TEDLAR OVERLAY
- FX 703 KEL-F
- KEL-F-3700 (SCHEUFELN PAPER)
- KEL-F-5500 (SCHEUFELN PAPER)
- LAMINATED SCHEUFELN PAPER WITH FLUOREL
- SCHEUFELN PAPER COATED WITH BETA LACE AND SCRIM
- BETA GLASS KEL-F FLUOREL (THICK)

FABRIC CHARACTERISTICS SUMMARY

Physical Test methods <sup>a</sup>	(12)	Combustion rates, (in/sec)					Physical characteristics											Outgassing			Cost	Status	Availability	Supplier			
							(1)	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(6)	(10)	(11)								(5)		
Fabric	Weight, oz/yd <sup>2</sup>	Air	10 psia, 10 sec, 60% N <sub>2</sub>	6.2 psia, O <sub>2</sub>	16.5 psia, O <sub>2</sub>	16.5 psia 60% O <sub>2</sub> /40% N <sub>2</sub>	Elongation, %	Breaking strength (tench), lb/in.	Tear strength, g	Wear resistance, no. cycles	Folding endurance, no. cycles (C)	Stiffness, in-lb	Abrasion, no. cycles	Abrasion, no. cycles	Air permeability, ft <sup>3</sup> /ft <sup>2</sup> /min	Electrostatic charge, mC	Thermal conductivity, cal/sec/cm <sup>2</sup> /°C/cm	Thickness, in.	Odor	Carbon monoxide, mg/g	Total organics, mg/g						
Nylon	8.9			0.78			22	350	>6400	174		0.002	2468	870	7.98	8.0	1.49 × 10 <sup>-4</sup>	0.0145	12	1.2		0.0003	\$3/yd	Used for making mockups	2 to 3 wk del.	Stern & Stern	
Beta 4190B	6.5	0	0	0.0	0	0	9.1	106	2400	148		0.003	198	85	0.5	2.0	1.69 × 10 <sup>-4</sup>	0.008					\$8/yd		2 to 3 wk del.	Owens/Corning	
Beta 4484/Teflon	6.1	0	0	0.0	0	0	8.0	142	>6400	151		0.003	125	1200	22.7	18.0	1.2 × 10 <sup>-4</sup>	0.008 0.009					\$10/yd	In use as outer layer of PGA	2 to 3 wk del.	Owens/Corning	
Teflon - bleached T102-42	8.7		0.29	0.13	0.435		67	59	5100	93		0.0002	584	600	4.8	20.0	2.1 × 10 <sup>-4</sup>	0.009	0.9	0.7	34.0		\$30/yd	Apollo ICG fabric	4 wk del.		
Teflon - natural	16.9			0.21	0.725		56	172	5400	343		0.002	1075	1952	11.2	22.0	1.8 × 10 <sup>-4</sup>	0.018	1.7	4.2	9.0		\$30/yd			E. I. DuPont	
Nomex (H.T. 90-40)	6.2	0.121	0.63	1.00			40	325	>6400	689		0.001	943	260	4.9	8.0	1.58 × 10 <sup>-4</sup>	0.013	7	0.4	1.0		\$8/yd	Was used as comfort liner of PGA		Stern & Stern	
Nomex - treated, POC1 <sub>3</sub> Br <sub>2</sub>	7.3			0.42			10	128	3000	353		0.004	450	227	10.9	0.06	1.6 × 10 <sup>-4</sup>	0.014					\$6/yd treat.	Experimental	Nonproduction 3 mo lag	Dynatech	
PBI - untreated	5.0			0.003	0.009		20	149	4600	206		0.004	629	143	98.5	40.0	3.0 × 10 <sup>-5</sup>	0.0135	5	2.4	3.0		\$200/lb		4 wk del.	Celanese	
PBI - treated, POC1 <sub>3</sub>	8.0	0		0.0			60	188	>6400	234		0.002	2461	1651	26.9	2.6	3.2 × 10 <sup>-5</sup>	0.017					\$6/yd treat.	Experimental	Nonproduction 3 mo lag	Dynatech	
PBI - treated, POC1 <sub>3</sub> Br <sub>2</sub>	5.9			0.14			20	184	5700	721		0.002	1200	1500	38.7	2.4	4.8 × 10 <sup>-5</sup>	0.014								Monsanto	
Durette X-400	6.2		S.E. <sup>b</sup>	0.31	0.813		30	138	5900	126		0.0003	467	116	89.1	2.0	1.3 × 10 <sup>-4</sup>	0.012		3.7	0.0		\$25 to \$50/yd	Being evaluated	4 to 6 wk del.	Monsanto	
Durette X-410	5.0		S.E. <sup>b</sup>	0.29			14	200	3000	96		0.001	145	65	28.9	18.0	1.8 × 10 <sup>-4</sup>	0.0118	11	2.8	1.0			Experimental			Monsanto
Durette X-420	5.6			0.30			13.3	124	4100	93		0.002	100	350	43.4	0.01	2.0 × 10 <sup>-4</sup>	0.013						Experimental			Monsanto
Nickel chromium (Karma cloth or Chromel-R)	18.0	0	0	0.0	0	0		176	5400	869		0.006	2034	977	68.6	0.0	N/A	0.010					\$150/lb \$1500/lb				Fabric Research Laboratory
FVPRO 5007/7	6.0	0	0.29	0.7		0.8	24	154	3800	836		0.003	217	41	49	12	2.0 × 10 <sup>-4</sup>	0.015	0.7	4.0	1.0		\$6.50/yd	Commercial	2 to 3 wk del.	Travis Mills	

<sup>a</sup>Physical test methods:

1. FED STD 191, Method 5104
2. FED STD 191, Method 5132
3. FED STD 191, Method 5302
4. ASTM-D 2576
5. FED STD 191, Method 5030

<sup>b</sup>Self-extinguished.<sup>c</sup>All greater than 5000 cycles.

6. FED STD 191, Method 5202
7. FED STD 191, Method 5306 (CS17 Wheel)
8. FED STD 191, Method 5304 (600 grit paper)

9. FED STD 191, Method 5450
10. Sweeney Test Method
11. Cenco-Pitch Test Method
12. FED STD 191, Method 5041

# THE PERFORMANCE OF LIGHTWEIGHT PLASTIC

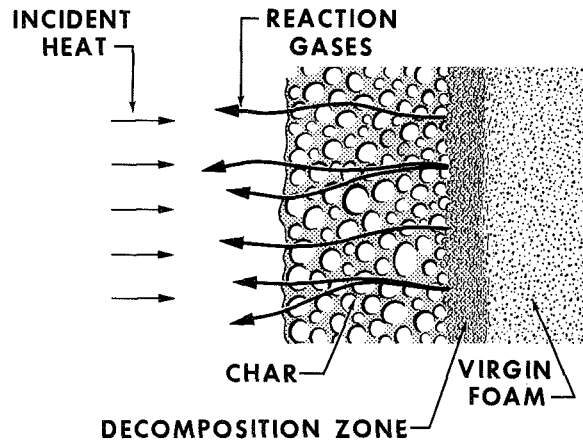
## FOAMS DEVELOPED FOR FIRE SAFETY

By Richard H. Fish  
NASA Ames Research Center

### ABSTRACT

Research on the chemistry of ablation for protection of spacecraft during atmospheric entry has led to the development of a new class of fire-retardant materials, namely, lightweight plastic foams. The foams have been developed principally to protect aircraft structures and externally mounted fuel tanks from onboard fires in flight. Fire-retardant foams have been made from urethane, isocyanurate, and polybenzimidazole. The density of the foams ranges from 2 to 30 lb/cu ft. Addition of randomly placed quartz fibers to the urethane and isocyanurate foams increases the density of the foams and improves the stability of the char formed as a result of heat. For example, by adding fibers in a 10-percent concentration, the density of the urethane foam is tripled, and its fire-protection capability is increased fivefold. The fire-protection capability of the isocyanurate foam system is twice that of the urethane foam and is four times that of commercial isocyanurate fire-retardant foam. This paper describes the various fire-retardant materials and illustrates their performance when exposed to a fuel fire. The performance of the materials is compared wherever possible with presently available commercially developed products. Although the materials were developed primarily for aircraft use, a discussion is given of other possible areas of application.

## PYROLYSIS MECHANISM OF CHAR FORMING ABLATORS UNDER UNIDIRECTIONAL HEATING

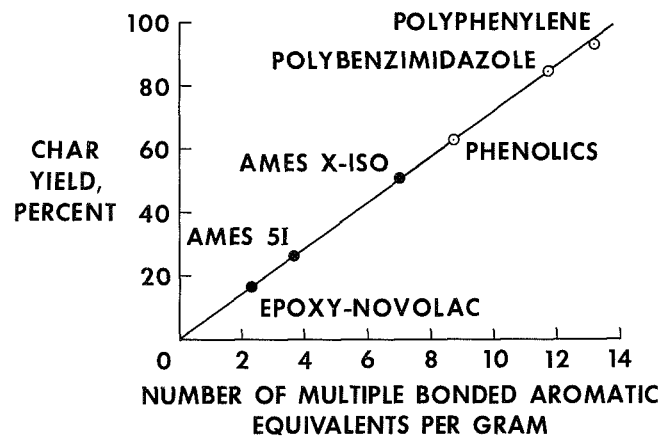


## FACTORS AIDING THERMAL PROTECTION

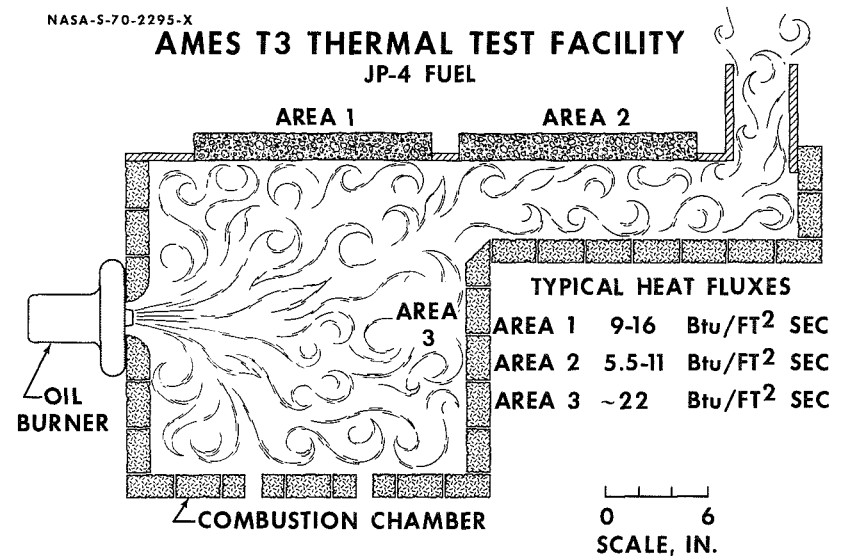
- HIGH RESISTANCE TO HEAT FLOW
  - LOW THERMAL CONDUCTIVITY
- PYROLYSIS GASES
  - COUNTERFLOW TO IMPEDE HEAT FLOW
  - HALOGEN RICH TO SUPPRESS FLAMES BY ACTING AS FLAME CHAIN SCAVENGERS
- HIGHLY CHARRED RESIDUE
  - LOW THERMAL CONDUCTIVITY
  - GOOD INTEGRITY - NO FISSURES

11-2

## CORRELATION OF PRIMARY THERMOCHEMICAL CHAR YIELD WITH MOLECULAR STRUCTURE

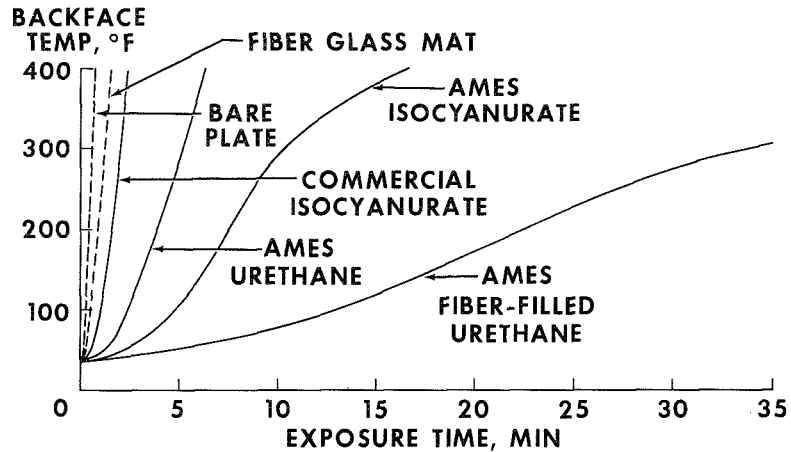


## AMES T3 THERMAL TEST FACILITY



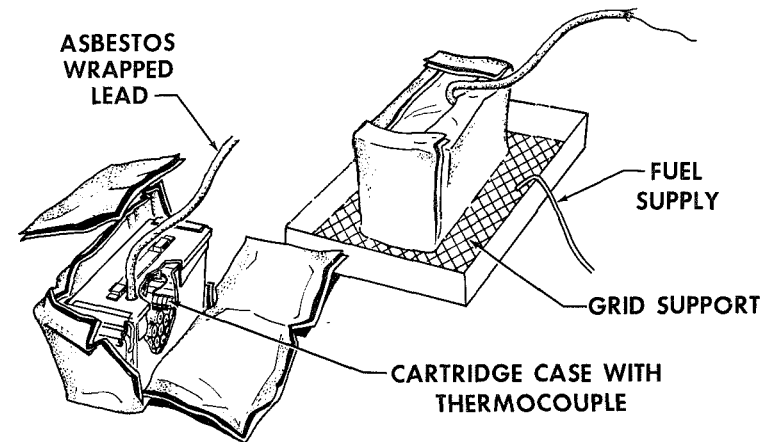
NASA-S-70-2291-X

## PERFORMANCE OF VARIOUS FIRE-RETARDANT FOAMS IN JP-4 FUEL FIRE

HEATING RATE = 10 Btu/FT<sup>2</sup> SEC

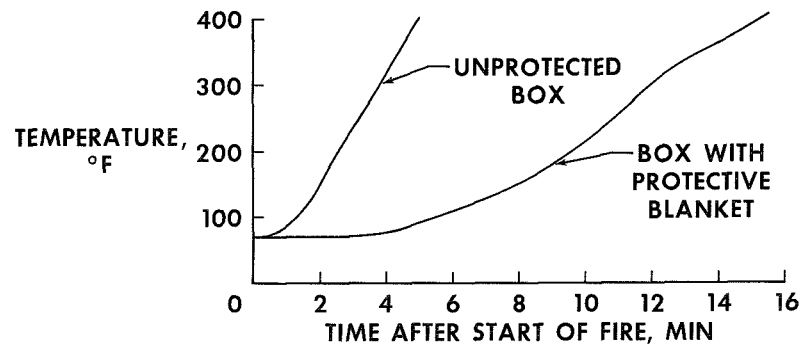
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## TEST OF FOAM BLANKET TO PROTECT AMMUNITION BOX



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## TIME-TEMPERATURE HISTORY OF .50 CAL CARTRIDGE IN AMMUNITION BOX JP-4 FUEL FIRE



NASA-S-70-2303-X

## POTENTIAL APPLICATION OF AMES FOAMS

AREA	PROTECTION
MILITARY AIRCRAFT	FUEL TANK INCENDIARY PENETRATION
GENERAL AIRCRAFT	CRASH FIRES
JUMBO AIRCRAFT	CARGO HOLD FIRES
MINES	MINE STOPPING AND MINE-SHAFT REINFORCEMENT
SPACE SHUTTLE	CRYOGENIC INSULATION AND HEAT SHIELD
HOUSING	FIREWALLS AND TEMPORARY STRUCTURES

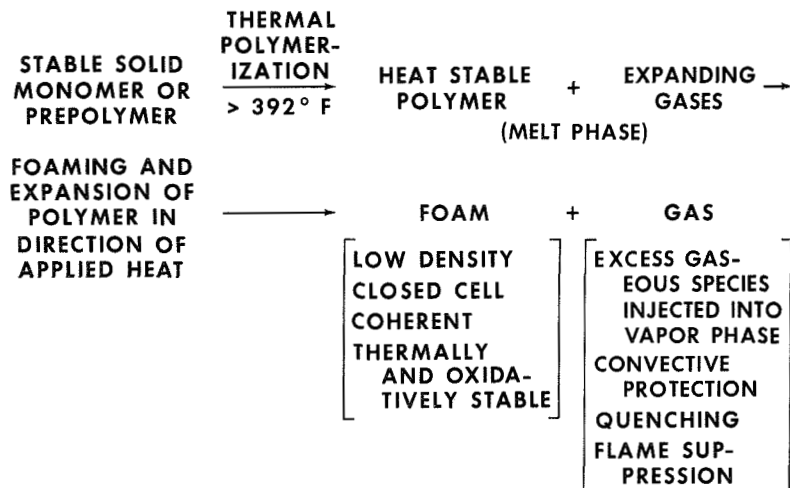
INTUMESCENCE: AN IN SITU APPROACH  
TO THERMAL PROTECTION

By G. M. Fohlen, J. A. Parker, S. R. Riccitiello, and P. M. Sawko  
NASA Ames Research Center

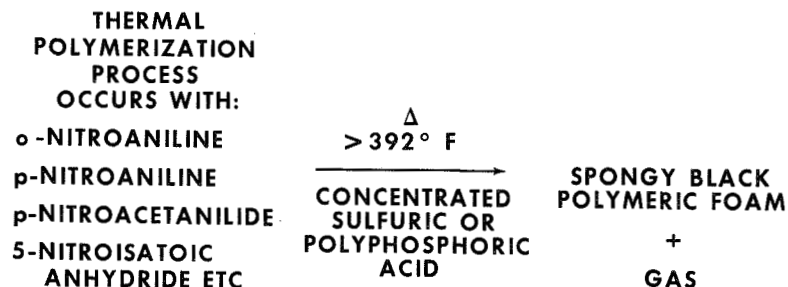
ABSTRACT

The phenomenon of intumescence, the swelling of a substance upon the application of heat, has been used for many years in the form of surface coatings as a means of protecting fire-sensitive building materials. With regard to experience gained at the NASA Ames Research Center in the areas of polymer chemistry and ablation technology for thermal protection, intumescent systems that may serve to protect a variety of heat-sensitive components, such as fuels, explosives, structural materials, and even man, have been reexamined. In this paper, the evolution of intumescent coatings from the older carbohydrate-phosphoric acid systems, through the nitroaniline bisulfate salts originally used by NASA, to the newer nitroaniline-sulfonic acids, quinonedioxime-acid mixtures, and nitroanilinosulfones, is described. In the case of the nitroaniline derivatives, the intumescence is modeled as a thermal self-polymerization of the aromatic compounds passing through plastic states, being expanded by evolving gaseous products to form finely textured, low-density foams. These foams have low thermal conductivity, high emissivity, and good resistance to ignition. The gases evolved during the polymerization reaction and injected into the fire zone further serve as flame quenchers. The resulting polymeric foams are polyheterocyclic structures similar to polyquinoxalines or polyphenoxazines. The development of several useful coating systems to effect fire protection in a variety of applications is discussed. Potential applications ranging from the prevention of weapons cookoff to the improvement in the fire safety of building materials are illustrated in simulation tests.

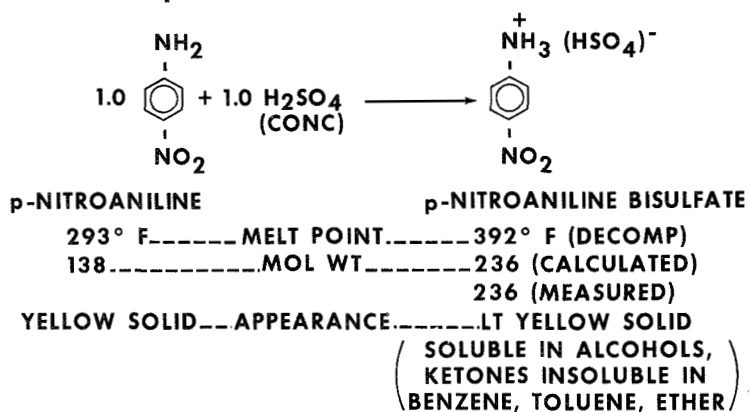
## GENERAL SEQUENCE OF REACTIONS PRODUCING INTUMESCENCE



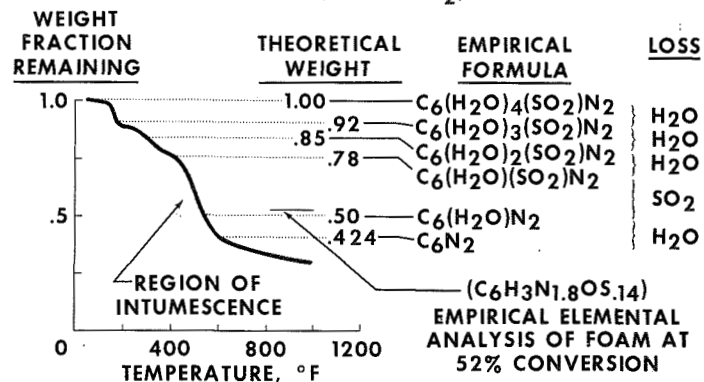
## INTUMESCENT REACTIONS OF NITRO SUBSTITUTED AROMATIC AMINES



## SYNTHESIS AND CHARACTERIZATION OF INTUMESCENT INTERMEDIATE p-NITROANILINE BISULFATE



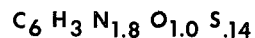
## TYPICAL TGA OF p-NITROANILINE BISULFATE (5.4° F/MIN IN N<sub>2</sub>)



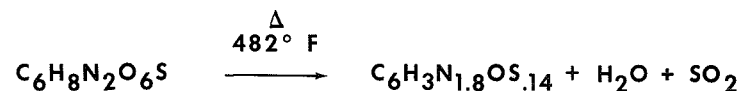
**ELEMENTAL ANALYSIS OF BLACK  
INTUMESCED POLYMERIC FOAM FORMED  
FROM p-NITROANILINE BISULFATE  
AT 482° F**

<u>C</u>	<u>H</u>	<u>N</u>	<u>S</u>	<u>O</u>
59.65	2.51	20.77	3.64	13.43%

WHICH CALCULATES TO GIVE AN EMPIRICAL FORMULA:



**STOICHIOMETRIC REACTION OF  
p-NITROANILINE BISULFATE**



MOL WT = 236  
-5H  
-5O  
-S

FORMULA WEIGHT = 120.7

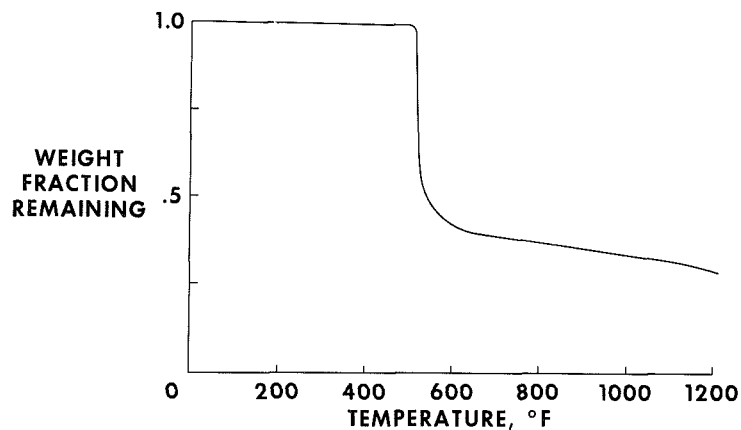
FOAM YIELD:

CALCULATED = 51.2 PERCENT

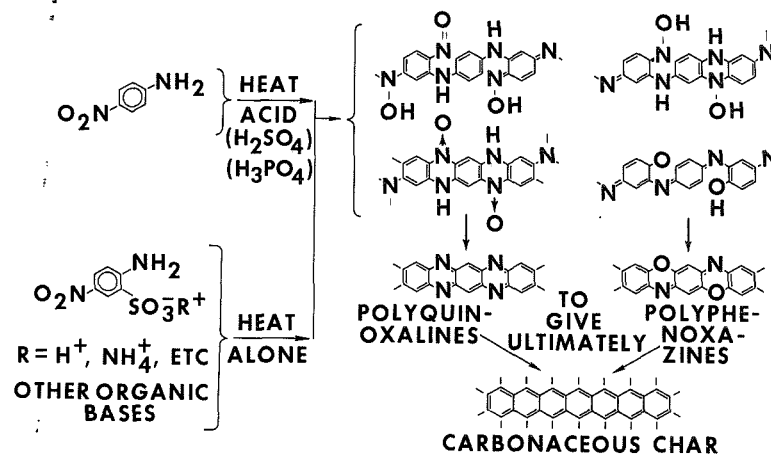
MEASURED = 51-54 PERCENT

12-3

**TGA OF p-NITROANILINE -  
o-SULFONIC ACID, AMMONIUM SALT  
5.4° F/MIN IN N<sub>2</sub>**



**PROPOSED GENERALIZED MECHANISM  
FOR POLYMERIZATION**





## VOID FILLING THERMAL PROTECTION COATING

FORMULATION NUMBER 341

● PART A	<u>PARTS, WT</u>
• NITROCELLULOSE, ETHANOL-WET (12% N)	8.0
• METHYL ETHYL KETONE	28.6
● PART B	
• p-NITROANILINE BISULFATE	43.7
• TOLUENE	19.7
• BUTYL ACETATE	19.7

## THERMAL PROTECTION COATING

FORMULATION NUMBER 410-1A

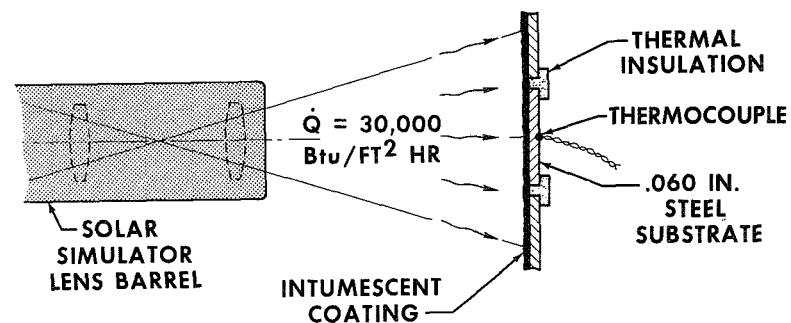
	<u>PARTS, WT</u>
PHENOLIC MODIFIED ACRYLONITRILE-BUTADIENE RUBBER SOLUTION	29.4
p-NITROANILINE BISULFATE	44.0
CYCLOHEXANONE	14.5
METHYL ETHYL KETONE	12.15

## THERMAL PROTECTION COATING

FORMULATION NUMBER 45B3

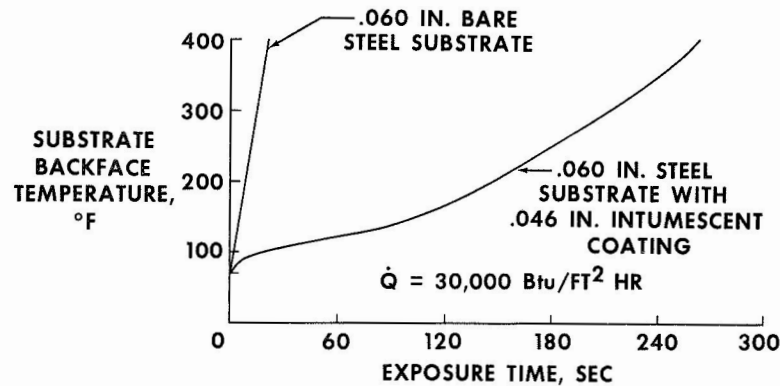
● PART A	<u>PARTS, WT</u>
• POLYSULFIDE POLYMER	14.1
• AMMONIUM p-NITROANILINE-o-SULFONATE	57.0
• METHYL ETHYL KETONE	28.9
● PART B	
• EPOXY RESIN, LIQUID	14.1
• TOLUENE	14.7
● PART C	
• TRI (DIMETHYLAMINOMETHYL) PHENOL	2.8
• TOLUENE	2.8

## ARRANGEMENT FOR TESTS OF INTUMESCENT COATINGS IN SOLAR SIMULATOR BEAM

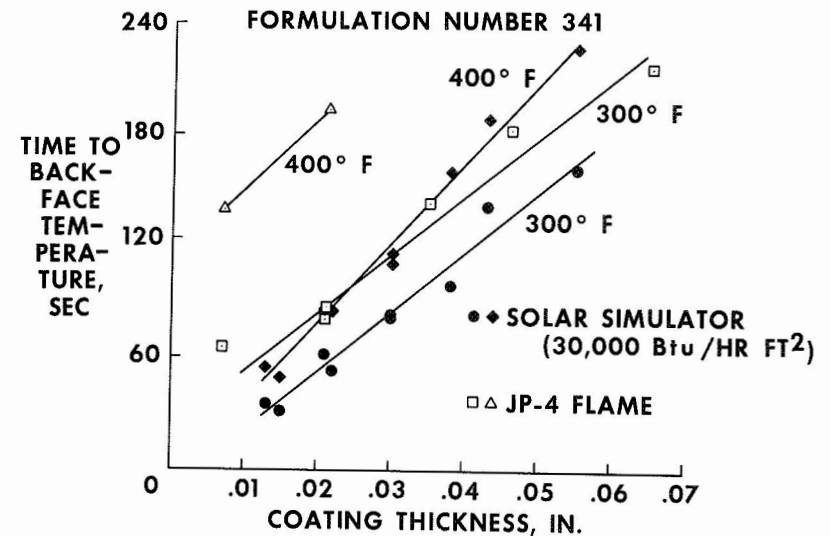


# COMPARISON OF BARE STEEL AND INTUMESCENT COATED STEEL IN SOLAR SIMULATOR RADIATION TESTS

FORMULATION NUMBER 341

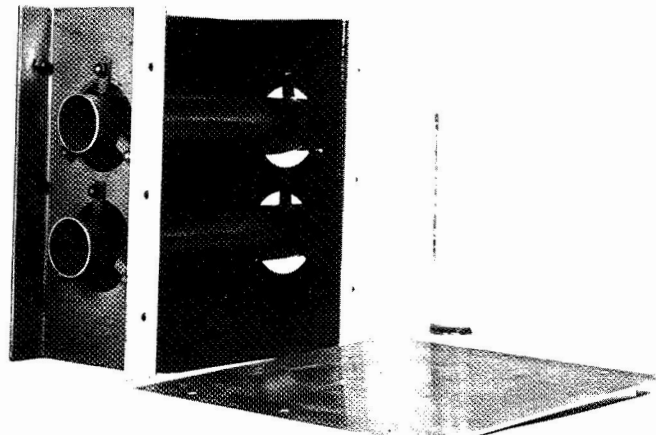


# EFFECT OF INTUMESCENT COATING THICKNESS ON BACKFACE TEMPERATURE RISE



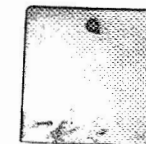
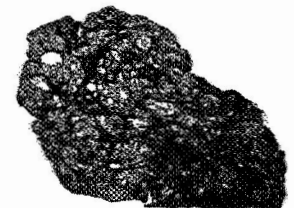
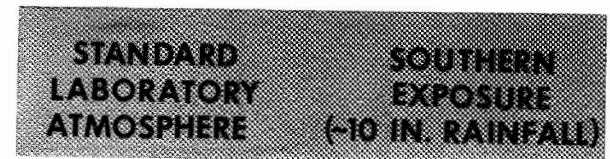
# TEST SETUP OF SIMULATED FUSELAGE SECTION COATED WITH VOID FILLING THERMAL PROTECTION COATING

FORMULATION NUMBER 341

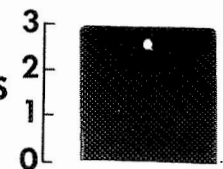


# INTUMESCENCE OF 45B3 COATING AFTER 90 DAY EXPOSURE TO OUTDOOR ENVIRONMENT

COATING THICKNESS = 40 MILS

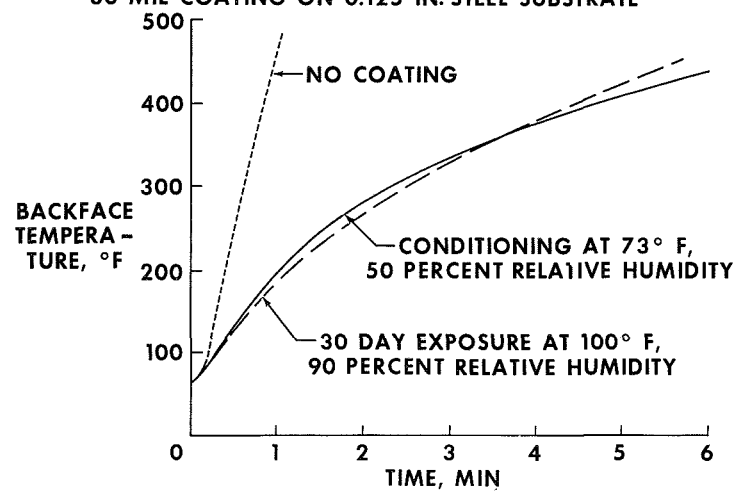


INCHES



# **FIRE-PROTECTIVE EFFECTIVENESS OF 45B3 INTUMESCENT COATING**

HEATING RATE IN JP-4 FIRE = 10 Btu / FT<sup>2</sup> SEC  
80 MIL COATING ON 0.125 IN. STEEL SUBSTRATE



SESSION III

CONFIGURATION CONTROL AND MATERIALS APPLICATIONS

Session Chairman: Joseph N. Kotanchik

# NONMETALLIC MATERIAL CONFIGURATION CONTROL

## IN THE APOLLO SPACECRAFT

By M. W. Steinthal  
NASA Manned Spacecraft Center

### ABSTRACT

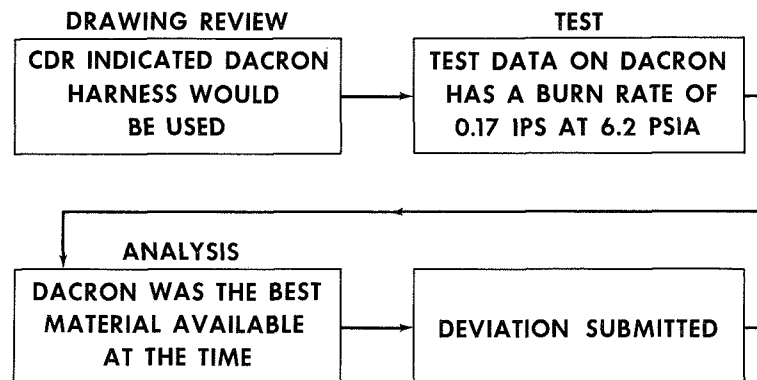
A program for control of nonmetallic materials used in and around the Apollo spacecraft was developed to minimize flammability and toxicity hazards. Engineering groups at spacecraft contractors facilities and at the Manned Spacecraft Center were designated to supply the materials technology and to conduct tests according to NASA Manned Spacecraft Center requirements. A coordinated materials effort was established at the NASA Kennedy Space Center by the assignment of materials engineers from the contractors and from the Manned Spacecraft Center to monitor materials used in and around the spacecraft at that site. All engineering documents that can add nonmetallic materials to or change the configuration of the spacecraft crew bay are reviewed and approved by the contractor and Manned Spacecraft Center materials-engineering personnel. Materials and configurations that do not meet the criteria and guidelines must be presented to the Manned Spacecraft Center configuration control board as deviations for disposition. A computer data system, Characteristics of Materials (called COMAT), was developed to record the use of nonmetallic materials. The Characteristics of Materials data system is jointly used by NASA and the Apollo spacecraft contractors for the storage and retrieval of usage, status, and characteristics data on nonmetallic materials used, or considered for use, on manned spacecraft. The usage data consist of an accounting of materials in terms of where they are used (assembly and spacecraft number), the quantity used (weight and surface area), and the functional application (adhesive, paint, etc.). The status data consist of evaluation of the material in its application in terms of specified limits for such elements as combustion rate, fire point, odor, carbon monoxide, et cetera. The characteristics data consist of selected elements of flammability and outgassing test data. This paper reviews the basic features of this management control system and discusses the utility and value of the attendant data storage and retrieval system.

## NONMETALLIC MATERIALS CONTROL

- IDENTIFICATION
  - CONTRACTOR FURNISHED EQUIPMENT
  - GOVERNMENT FURNISHED EQUIPMENT
  - GROUND SUPPORT EQUIPMENT
- TESTING
- DEVIATIONS
- DATA SYSTEM ACCOUNTING; CHARACTERISTICS OF MATERIALS (COMAT)
- VISUAL HARDWARE INSPECTIONS
- MAJOR MILESTONE REVIEWS
- CONTROL AT KENNEDY SPACECRAFT CENTER (KSC)
- CONCLUSIONS

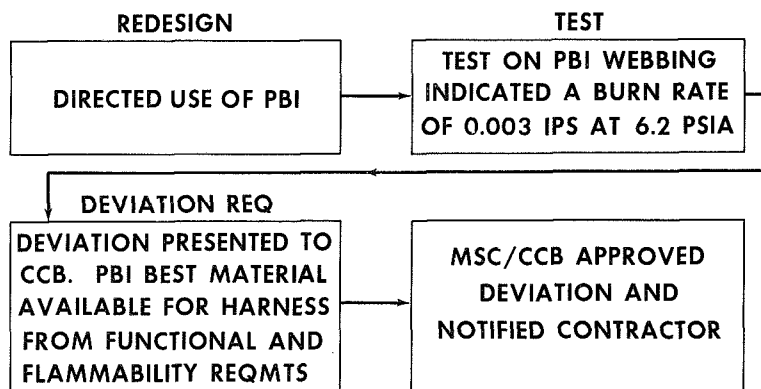
## TYPICAL FLOW FOR A MATERIAL APPROVAL FOR USE

### CREW RESTRAINT HARNESS



## TYPICAL FLOW FOR A MATERIAL APPROVAL FOR USE (CONT)

### CREW RESTRAINT HARNESS



## DEVIATIONS

- THE FOLLOWING DATA ARE REQUIRED FOR NONMETALLIC MATERIALS DEVIATIONS
  - DRAWINGS, PHOTOGRAPHS AND SUPPORTING ILLUSTRATIONS
  - MATERIAL IDENTIFICATION AND LOCATION
  - WEIGHT AND SURFACE AREA
  - TEST DATA
  - RATIONALE FOR REQUESTING AND APPROVING THE MATERIAL USAGE

## CHARACTERISTICS OF MATERIALS (COMAT)

- THE COMAT DATA SYSTEM PROVIDES THE FOLLOWING:
  - INVENTORY AND STATUS ACCOUNTING SYSTEM
  - MANAGEMENT AID IN REVIEWING FLAMMABILITY AND OUTGASSING HAZARDS
  - MATERIAL CHANGE AND DEVIATION CONTROL
  - IDENTIFICATION OF MATERIAL CANDIDATES FOR PRIORITY TESTING
  - A COMMON DATA BANK OF MATERIALS TEST RESULTS

## MATERIALS ACCOUNTING SYSTEM

TRADE NAME	MFR	DETAIL PART	APPR	EVAL	WT, LB	AREA, IN <sup>2</sup>	USAGE (CAT)
TEFLON, TFE	DuPONT	V36---	A	AAAA ---C	.052	8.1	B

### OTHER DATA AVAILABLE

- PART NAME
- MAJOR ASSEMBLY DRAWING
- GENERIC IDENTIFICATION
- QUANTITY PER SPACECRAFT
- SPECIFICATIONS
- TEST DATA
- EVALUATION RATIONALE

## MATERIAL TEST DATA BY GENERIC IDENTIFICATION

SEQUENCE: TEST CHAMBER ENVIRONMENT, GENERIC ID, MANUFACTURER, MANUFACTURERS' DESIGNATION

TEST CHAMBER ENVIRONMENT: O<sub>2</sub>

<u>MFR</u>	<u>MFR'S DESIG</u>	<u>CHMB PRES</u>	<u>PROPG RATE</u>	<u>O<sub>2</sub> PRES</u>	<u>FLASH POINT</u>	
<u>FIRE POINT</u>	<u>OD</u>	<u>CO</u>	<u>TO</u>	<u>TEMP</u>	<u>T<sub>R</sub> T T<sub>I</sub> C</u>	<u>TEST REP'T NUMBER</u>

## MOST SIGNIFICANT BENEFITS TO BE REALIZED

- SOURCE OF FLAMMABILITY AND TOXICOLOGICAL DATA
- MATERIAL DESIGN USAGE INFORMATION
- TOOL FOR SAFETY IMPROVEMENT
- INFORMATION ON NEW MATERIALS APPLICATIONS

# APOLLO SPACECRAFT NONMETALLIC MATERIALS APPLICATIONS

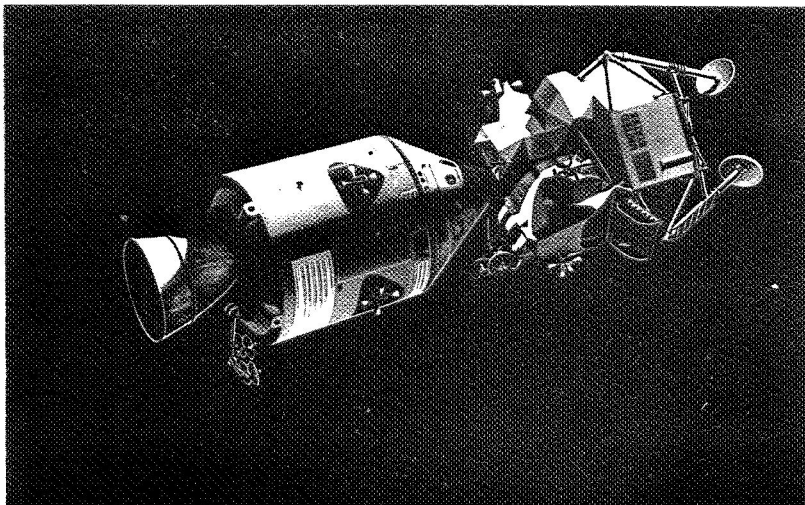
By Jerry W. Craig  
NASA Manned Spacecraft Center

## ABSTRACT

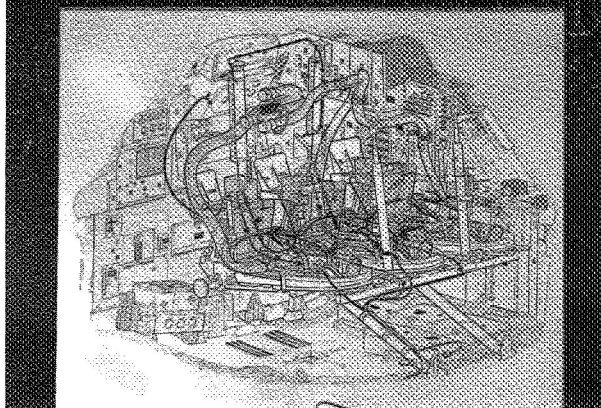
Several applications of nonmetallic materials in the Apollo spacecraft are reviewed. Significant applications of nonmetallic materials in both the lunar module and the command module crew compartments are emphasized. The materials and design techniques used in fabrication of electrical wire assemblies are discussed. Electrical-component panel materials and firesafety provisions are outlined. Modifications to electroluminescent crew displays are specified to achieve self-extinguishing flammability characteristics. Polyimide/fiber-glass laminates used for panel covers and containers are reviewed. Fire-extinguishment foam in a portable container shows excellent performance. The design techniques for crew couches and restraints are discussed. Superinsulation blankets, which consist of Mylar overwrapped with Kapton, are used in the service module and the lunar module and are non-flammable in air. Although there have been many Apollo Program non-metallic materials developments and advances, the most significant value is the information on these materials and test methods that is now available for application in many other fields.



NASA-S-70-2214-X  
**APOLLO COMMAND AND  
 SERVICE MODULE DOCKED WITH LUNAR MODULE**

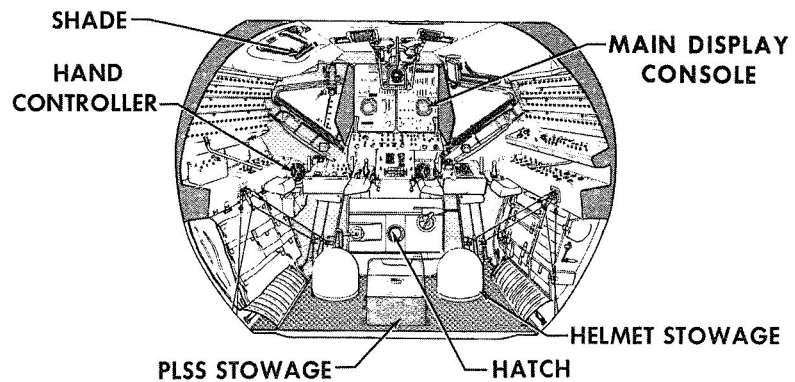


NASA-S-70-2213-X  
**COMMAND MODULE CREW COMPARTMENT**

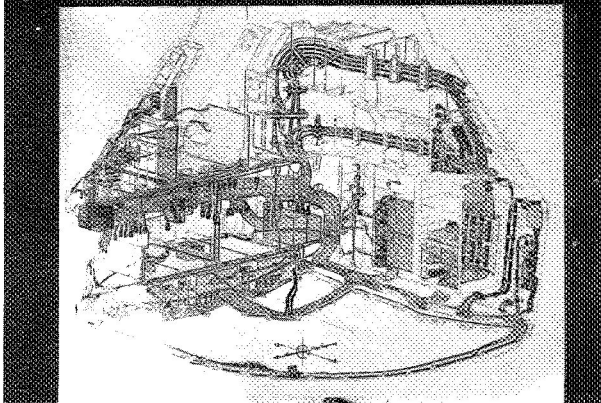


NASA-S-70-1973-X

**LM CREW COMPARTMENT**

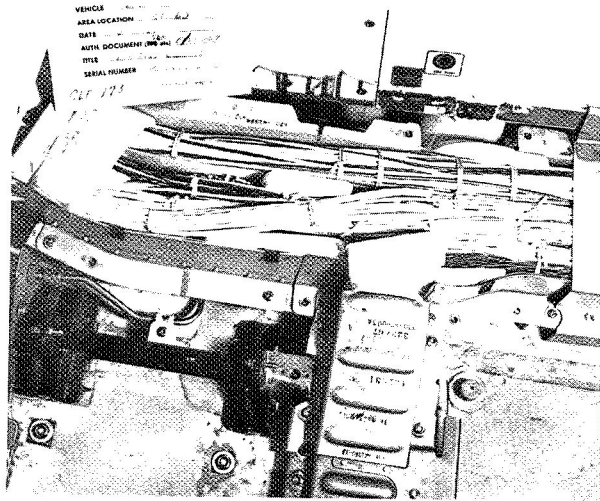


NASA-S-70-2212-X  
**CREW COMPARTMENT ELECTRIC HARNESS**



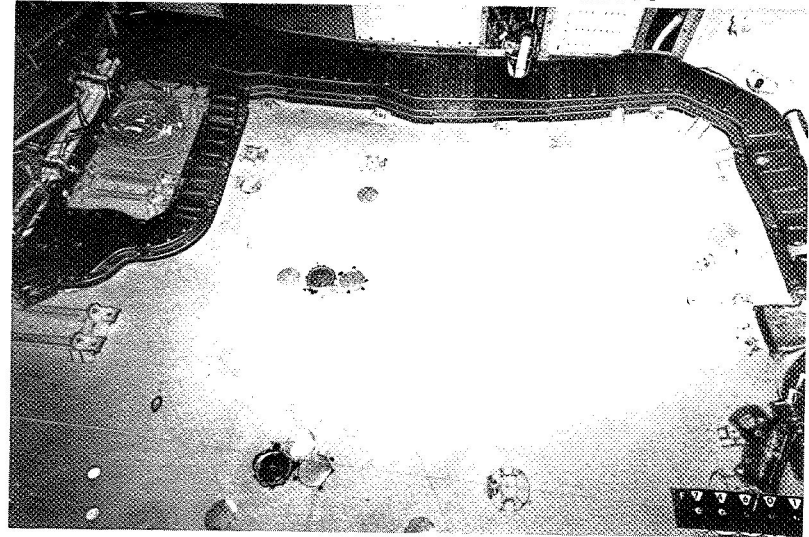
NASA-S-70-1932-X

# COMMAND MODULE CABLE TRAY WITHOUT COVER



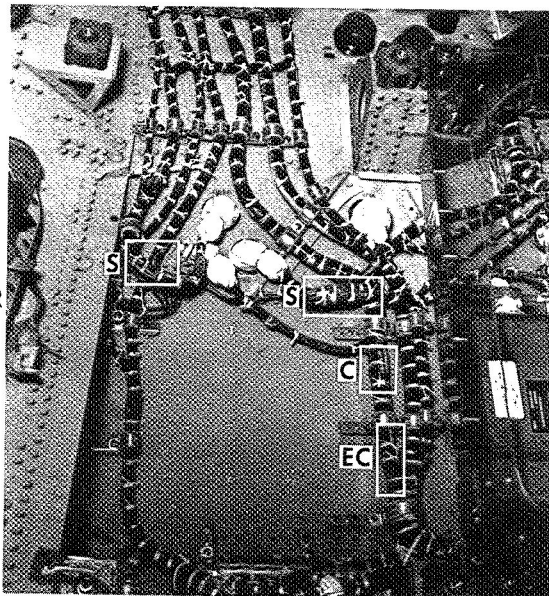
NASA-S-70-1934-X

# COMMAND MODULE CABLE TRAYS



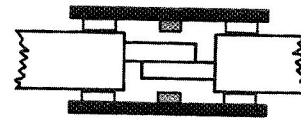
NASA-S-70-2363-X

# LM CABIN WIRING CRIMP AND SOLDER SPICES AND END CAPS



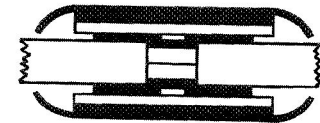
NASA-S-70-1959-X

# SOLDER SPLICE BEFORE HEAT

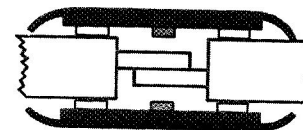


LM-3 TO LM-7

# CRIMP SPLICE BEFORE CRIMP



LM-3 - LM-7 NO FEP SLEEVE  
LM-8 - LM-14 USES FEP SLEEVE

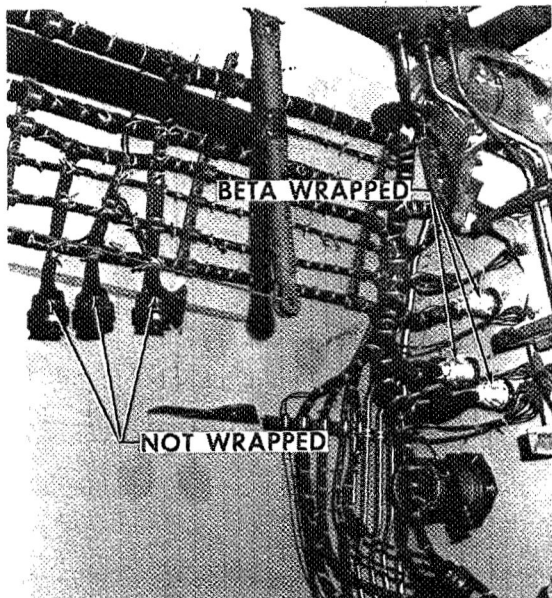


LM-8 TO LM-14

	SOLDER
	NYLON
	KYNAR
	FEP TEFLON
	METALLIC CRIMP

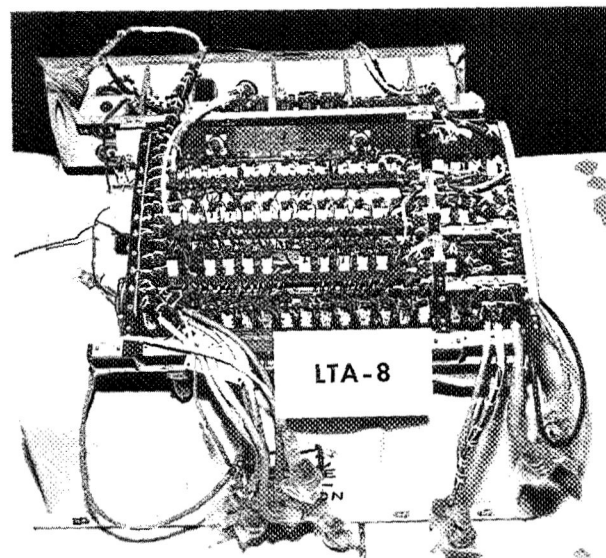
NASA-S-70-2364-X

LM  
CONNECTORS



NASA-S-70-1966-X

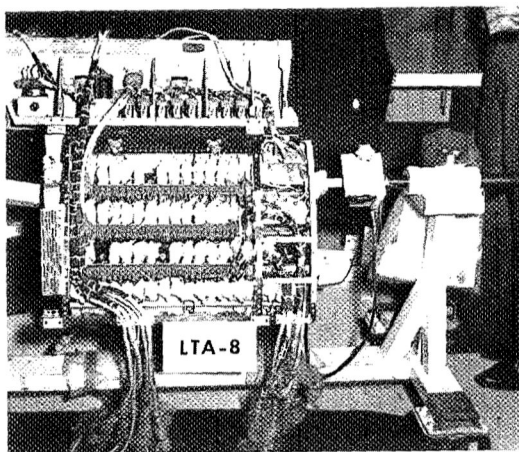
LUNAR  
MODULE  
CIRCUIT  
BREAKER  
PANEL



11-11

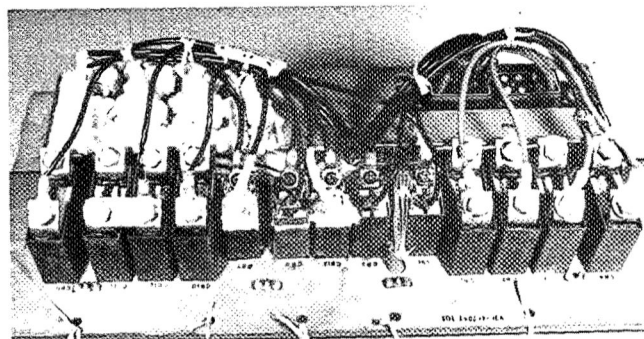
NASA-S-70-1967-X

BETA BAGS  
ON COATED LUNAR  
MODULE CIRCUIT  
BREAKER PANEL



NASA-S-70-1944-X

SLEEVE CIRCUIT BREAKER PROTECTION

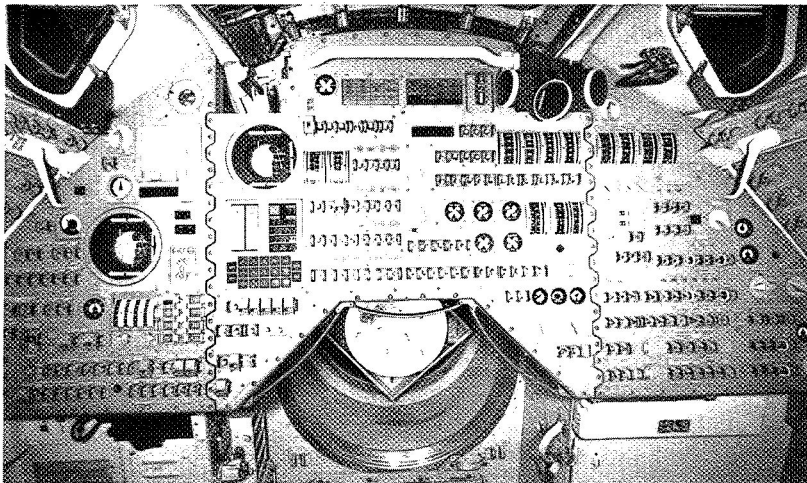


Assy. Name *PAK 275* *RK1101* *MEG. 10*  
 Assy. No. *136-45-000-011*  
 Model No. *136-3* S/C No. *112* Date *4-2-7*  
 Serial No. *AAH1919*

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
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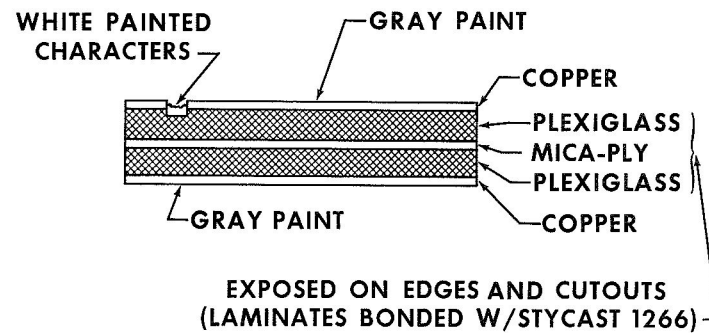
NASA-S-70-1949-X

## COMMAND MODULE MAIN DISPLAY CONSOLE



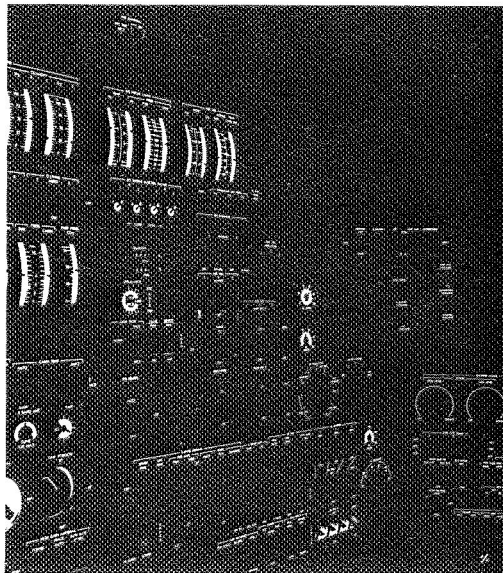
NASA-S-70-1951-X

## ELECTROLUMINESCENT PANEL CONFIGURATION



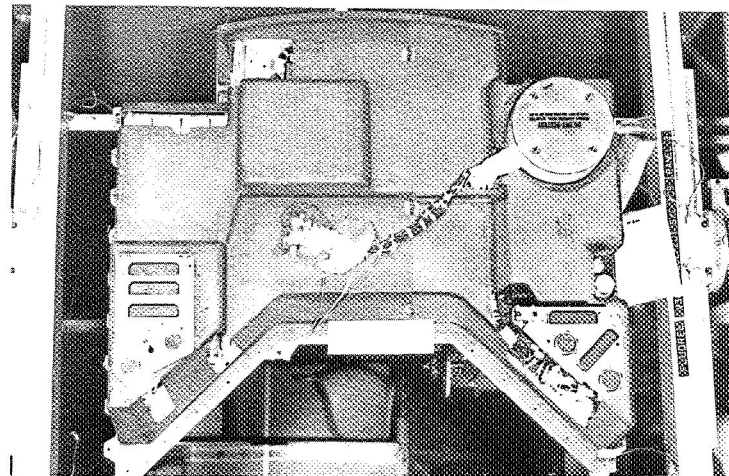
NASA-S-70-1935-X

## COMMAND MODULE MAIN CONSOLE



NASA-S-70-1947-X

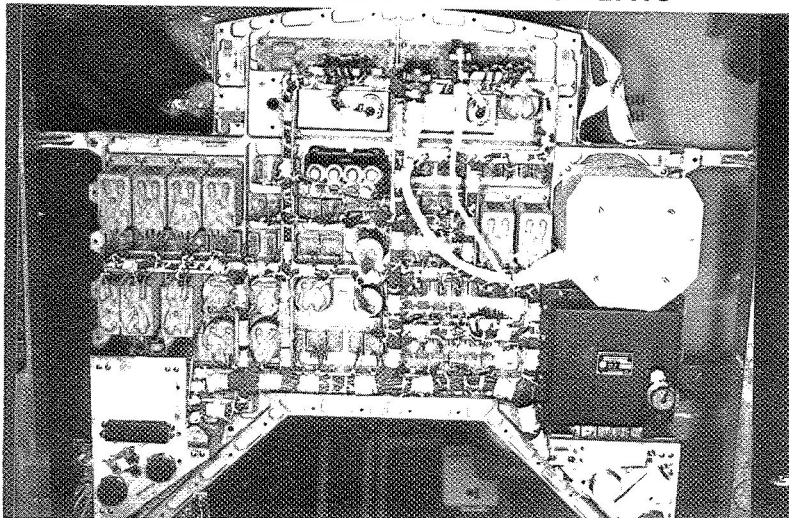
## ELECTRICAL PANEL COVER





NASA-S-70-1945-X

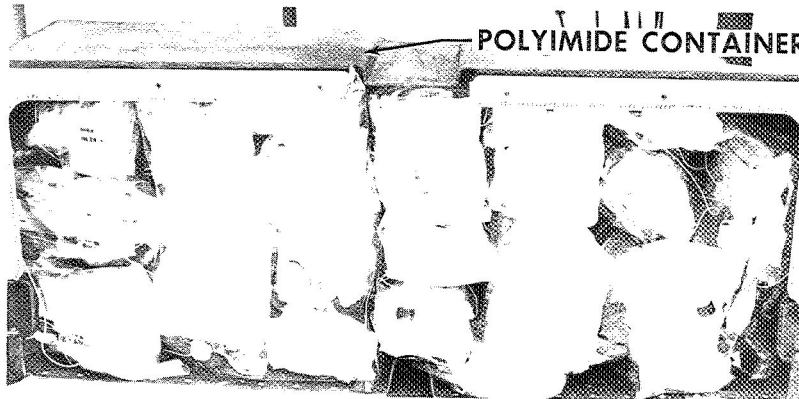
## COATED ELECTRICAL COMPONENTS



NASA-S-70-1940-X

## FOOD CONTAINER

POLYIMIDE CONTAINER



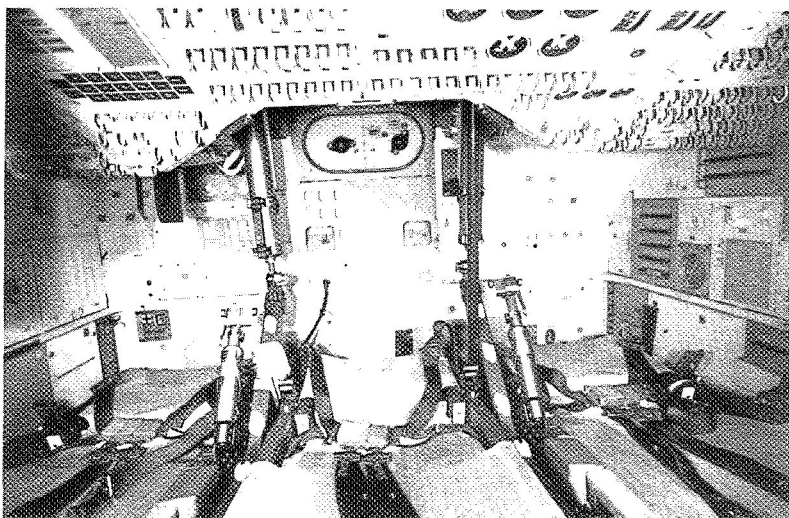
FOOD PACKS

POLYETHYLENE-PRIMARY WRAP

KEL-F-OVERWRAP

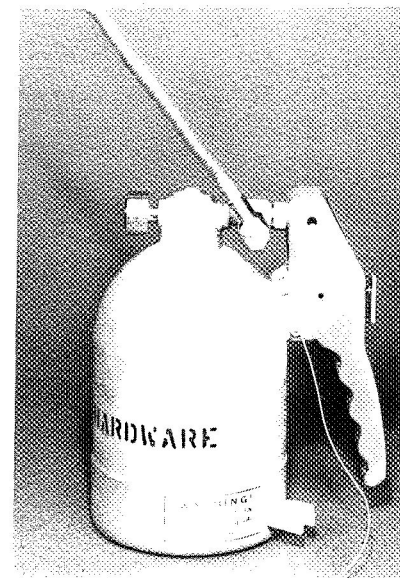
NASA-S-70-1938-X

## CREW COUCH AND RESTRAINT HARNESS



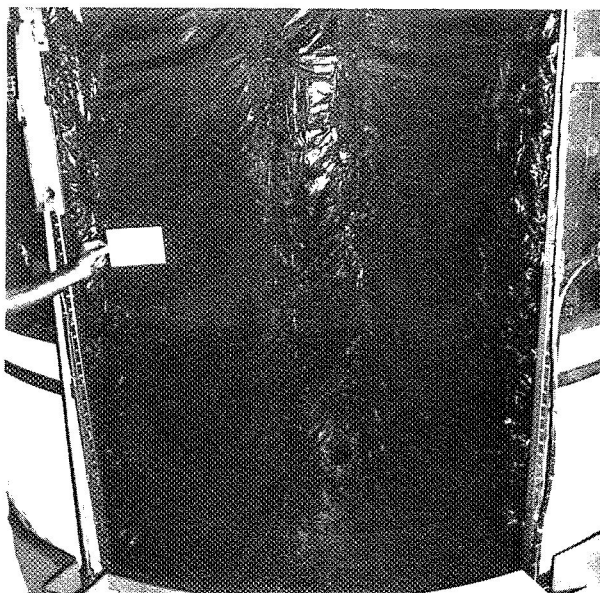
NASA-S-70-1954-X

## COMMAND MODULE FIRE EXTINGUISHER



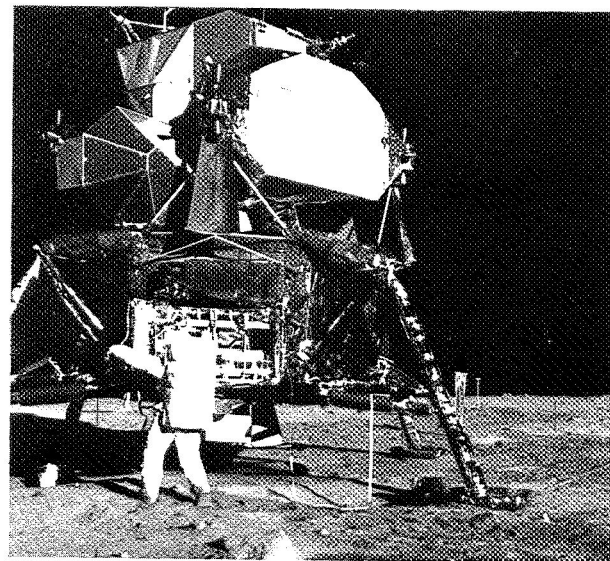
NASA-S-70-1956-X

**SUPER  
THERMAL  
INSULATION  
IN  
SERVICE  
MODULE**



NASA-S-70-1964-X

**LUNAR  
MODULE ON  
THE MOON  
WITH SUPER  
THERMAL  
INSULATION**







## APOLLO APPLICATIONS OF BETA FIBER GLASS

By Jack Naimer  
NASA Manned Spacecraft Center


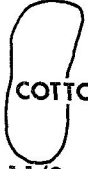

### ABSTRACT

Beta fiber is a type of glass fiber that is characterized by an extremely fine fiber diameter (3.8 microns). Because of its excellent fire resistance in enriched oxygen atmospheres it is extensively used in the cabin areas of the Apollo spacecraft. The fine fiber diameter permits the fabrication of textile materials that have physical properties which are not obtainable in conventional glass fibers. This paper is a description of the development of a variety of textile materials from Beta fiber that are designed to meet specific performance requirements in the Apollo spacecraft. Where fire protection is required for flammables such as paper tissues, towels, and medical kit contents, Beta fabrics are combined with other fire-resistant materials to form composite layups that are fabricated into containers which provide protection from temperatures as high as 2500° F. Also, suggested applications to improve the fire safety of commercial aircraft, public transportation facilities, and homes are discussed. Research is continuing in an effort to devise new methods and approaches to improve performance characteristics.

## COMPARATIVE SIZE AND RELATIVE BENDING STIFFNESS OF FIBERS

	BETA	'G' FIBER GLASS	NYLON	POLYESTER
				
DENIER	1/4	1-1/2	1-1/2	1-1/2
DIA (MICRONS)	3.8	9.0	14	12
RELATIVE BENDING STIFFNESS	1	36	11	14

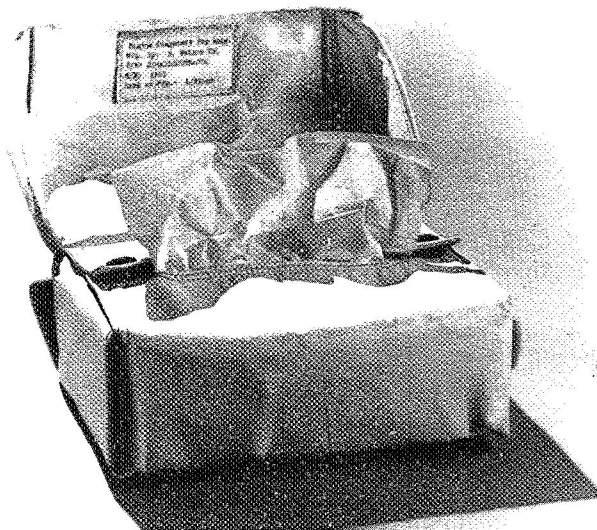
  

	VISCOSE	COTTON	SILK
			
DENIER	1-1/2	1-1/2	1.2
DIA (MICRONS)	16	16 x 6	14 x 8
RELATIVE BENDING STIFFNESS	7	8	7

## PHYSICAL PROPERTIES OF BETA FIBER GLASS

CHARACTERISTIC	SINGLE FILAMENT	MULTIFILAMENT
BREAKING TENACITY, GRAMS PER DENIER	15.3	9.6
BREAKING ELONGATION, PERCENT	4.8	3.1
TENSILE STRENGTH, PSI	500,000	313,000
ELASTIC RECOVERY, PERCENT	100	100
AVERAGE STIFFNESS, GRAMS PER DENIER	320	310
SPECIFIC GRAVITY, GRAMS/cc	2.5	2.5
WATER ABSORBENCY, PERCENT 70° F, 65 PERCENT RELATIVE HUMIDITY	NONE	NONE

## TISSUE DISPENSER BAG



## BETA FIBER GLASS APOLLO APPLICATIONS

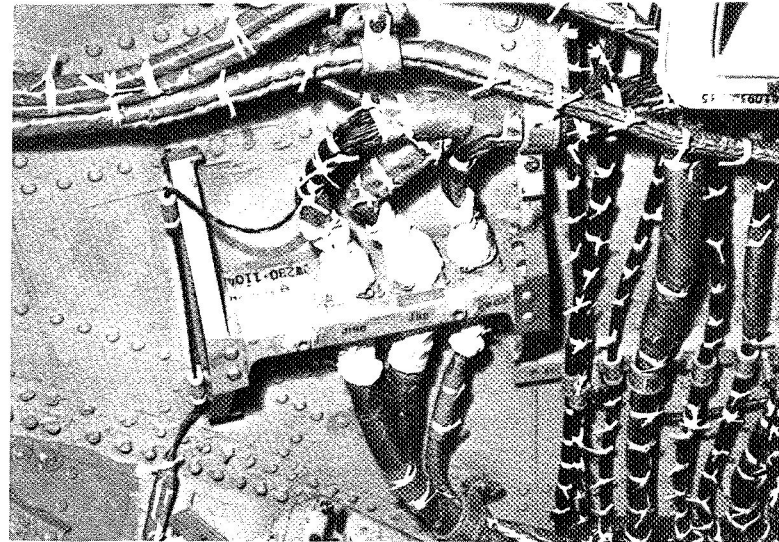
- 2 PASS BETA (DU PONT 95-049) TEFLON COATED
  - MEDICAL KIT
  - RUCKSACKS
  - TOWEL BAG
  - TISSUE DISPENSER
  - HELMET STOWAGE BAG
  - SUIT ACCESSORY KIT
  - LIFE VEST ASSEMBLY KIT
  - BACKPACK COVER
  - OXYGEN HOSE COVERS
- X4484 - BETA FABRIC, TEFLON COATED YARNS
  - OUTER LAYER OF SPACE SUIT
  - SPACECRAFT SHADES
- BETA MARQUISETTE
  - SPACER IN SUPERINSULATION OF SPACE SUIT



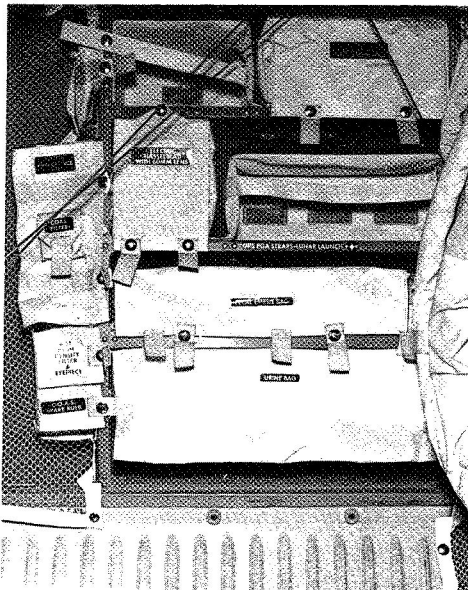
## BETA FIBER GLASS APOLLO APPLICATIONS (CONT)

- BETA CORDS AND WEBBINGS
  - USED AS ACCESSORIES ON CREW PROVISION AND SURVIVAL ITEMS
- BETA KNIT (FG-104)
  - NONFLAMMABLE SPACECRAFT INSULATION
- ASTRO-VELCRO
  - BETA IS USED FOR THE GROUND WEAVE
- BETA SCREEN PRINTS
  - MISSION EMBLEMS
  - NASA EMBLEMS
  - FLAGS
  - NAME PLATES

## BETA BAGS AS ELECTRICAL CONNECTOR PROTECTION



## BETA FABRIC CONTAINERS



## POTENTIAL USES OF BETA FIBER

- PROTECTIVE WORK CLOTHING
  - MILITARY FLIGHT COVERALLS
  - FUEL AND AMMUNITION HANDLERS
  - FIRE FIGHTERS
- FLAME PROOF BEDDING FOR INSTITUTIONS, HOTELS, HOSPITALS
- WALL COVERINGS
- UPHOLSTERY
- FLOOR COVERINGS

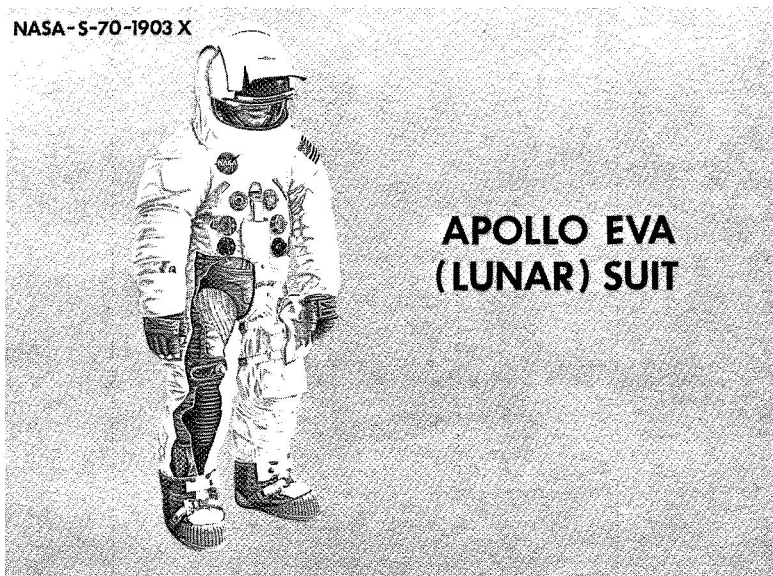
## THE APOLLO SPACE SUIT MATERIALS

By Frederic S. Dawn and Ralph L. Jarboe  
NASA Manned Spacecraft Center

### ABSTRACT

The Apollo lunar surface space suit is composed of several primary components such as the pressure garment assembly, the integrated thermal micrometeoroid garment, the liquid-cooled garment, the pressure garment boot, the lunar boot, the extravehicular boot, and the helmet with its various protective visors. Each of these components is basically a composite of a variety of nonmetallic materials (and some limited metal parts) each of which has specific functional requirements. This paper describes the various components of the space suit and considers the functional requirements for the various materials utilized, with special emphasis on the fire-resistance properties of these materials.

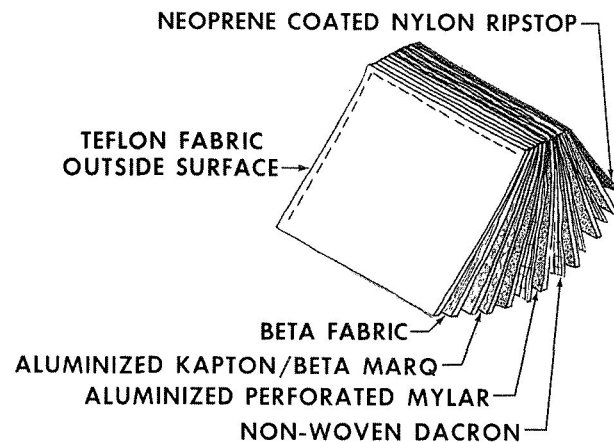
NASA-S-70-1903-X



**APOLLO EVA  
(LUNAR) SUIT**

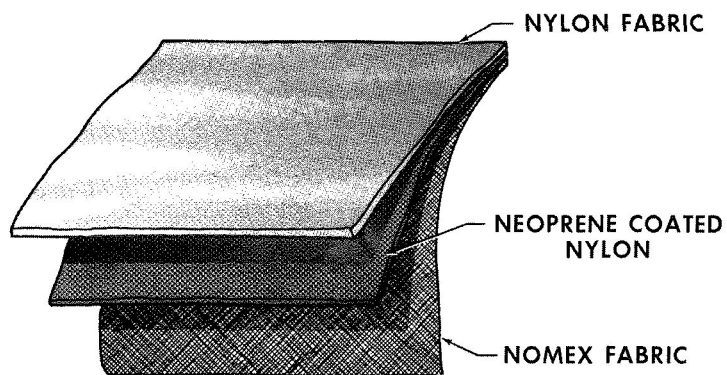
NASA-S-70-2118-X

## THERMAL MICROMETEOROID GARMENT LAYUP



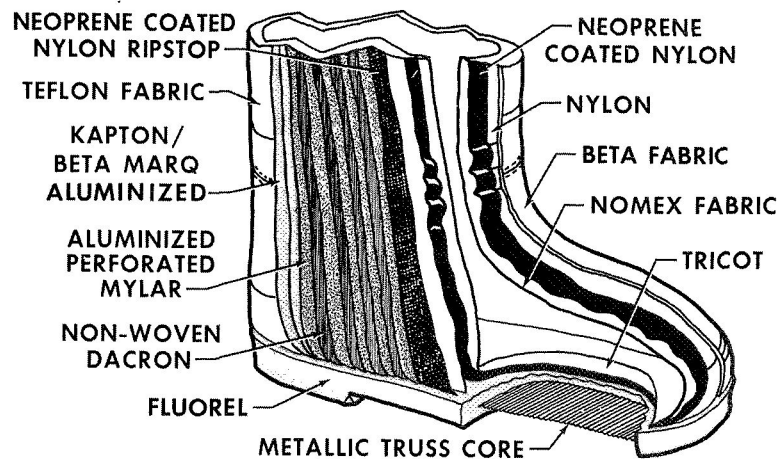
NASA-S-70-2117-X

## PRESSURE GARMENT LAYUP



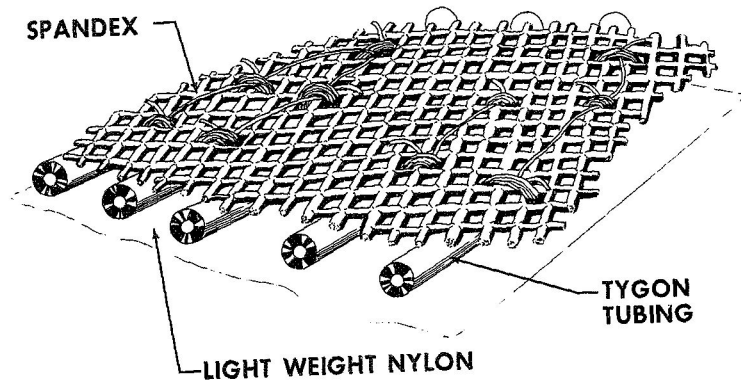
NASA-S-70-2116-X

## PRESSURE GARMENT BOOT



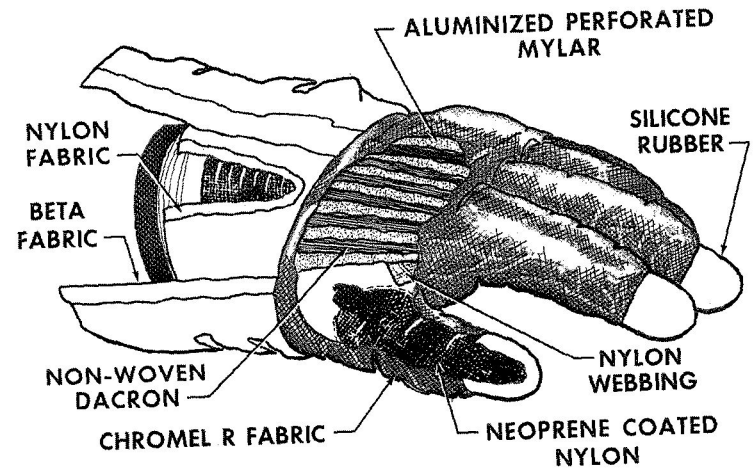
NASA-S-70-2120-X

## LIQUID COOLING GARMENT CONSTRUCTION



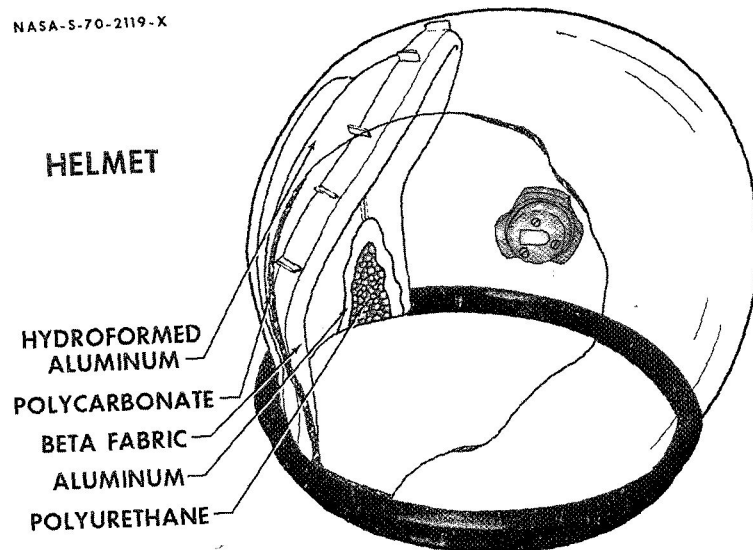
NASA-S-70-2121-X

## EXTRAVEHICULAR GLOVE



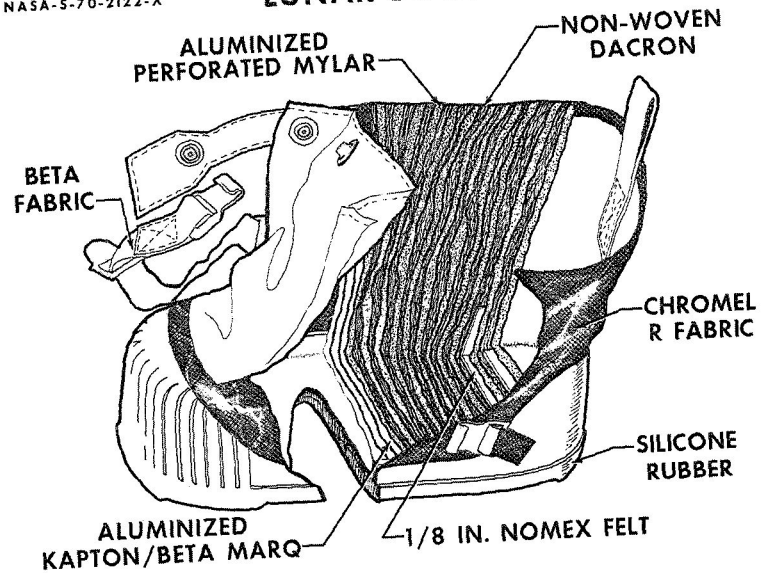
NASA-S-70-2119-X

## HELMET



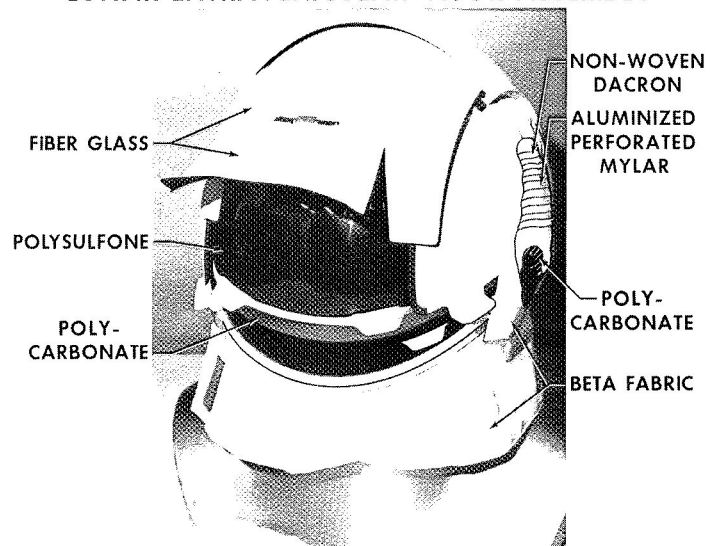
NASA-S-70-2122-X

## LUNAR BOOT



NASA-S-70-2123-X

## LUNAR EXTRAVEHICULAR VISOR ASSEMBLY



## FIRE-SAFETY DESIGN OF A MOBILE QUARANTINE FACILITY

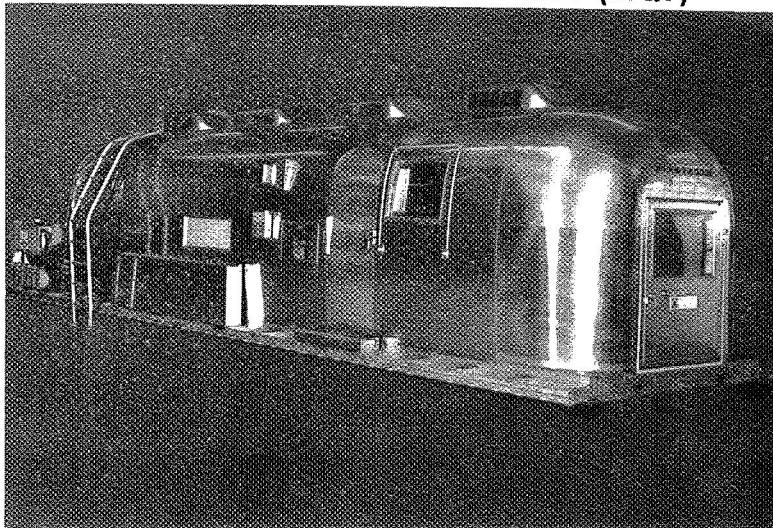
By Roderick S. Bass and John K. Hirasaki  
NASA Manned Spacecraft Center

### ABSTRACT

This paper discusses the approach taken by NASA in the design and construction of a Mobile Quarantine Facility to make it firesafe for manned operational purposes. In order that this facility be constructed with the greatest possible economy, it was decided to accept certain standard items of hardware used in the construction of commercial travel trailers and then to provide for subsequent fireproofing of these items. A base-line criterion was established that all fireproofing should meet or exceed the standards of commercial aviation practices as required by the Federal Aviation Administration. To meet this criterion, an evaluation program was initiated to investigate available fireproofing materials that could be applied to flammable substrates such as wooden panels. As a result of this evaluation program, Fluorel was selected because of its fire-retardant properties and because it could be applied to the flammable substrates by spray-application techniques. This Fluorel coating was applied to all wood, vinyl-coated wood, and fiberglass-reinforced plastic surfaces in the Mobile Quarantine Facility. Commercially available fire-retardant materials were chosen for such items as curtains, mattresses, upholstery, plumbing, and lavatory fixtures. In addition to these measures, the Mobile Quarantine Facility electrical system, auxiliary power unit, and fire-detection system incorporated design features to assure fire safety.

NASA-S-70-1568-X

## MOBILE QUARANTINE FACILITY (MQF)



NASA-S-70-1563-X

## STANDARD COMMERCIAL TRAVEL TRAILER MATERIALS

- BULKHEADS, DOORS AND FRAMING MATERIALS
    - WALNUT WOOD
    - OAK WOOD
    - VINYL-ON-WOOD
  - BATHROOM FIXTURES
    - BATHTUB
    - LAVATORY
    - OTHER MOLDINGS
  - MATTRESS
    - EXTERIOR TICKING
    - INTERIOR
- FIBER-GLASS-REINFORCED PLASTIC
  - FIBER-GLASS-REINFORCED PLASTIC
  - ACRYLONITRILE-BUTADIENE-STYRENE (ABS)
  - COTTON
  - URETHANE FOAM

NASA-S-70-1564-X

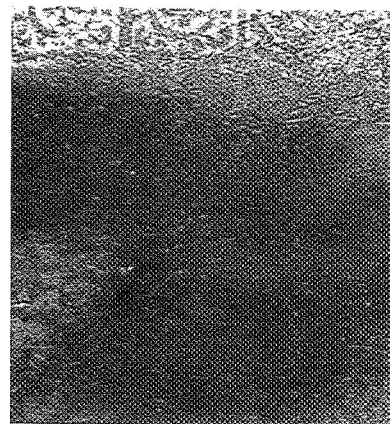
## STANDARD COMMERCIAL TRAVEL TRAILER MATERIALS (CONT)

- SEATS
  - URETHANE FOAM
- CURTAINS
  - FIBER GLASS
- INTERIOR END SECTIONS
  - FIBER-GLASS-REINFORCED PLASTIC
  - NYLON CARPET
- FLOOR
  - ACRYLONITRILE-BUTADIENE-STYRENE (ABS)
- PLUMBING

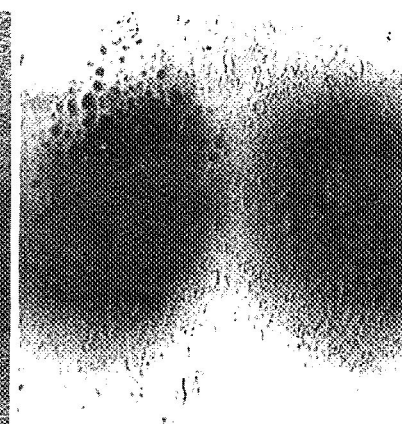
NASA-S-70-1560-X

## FLUOREL COATING - VINYL-ON-WOOD

FAA FLAMMABILITY TEST



WITHOUT FLUOREL

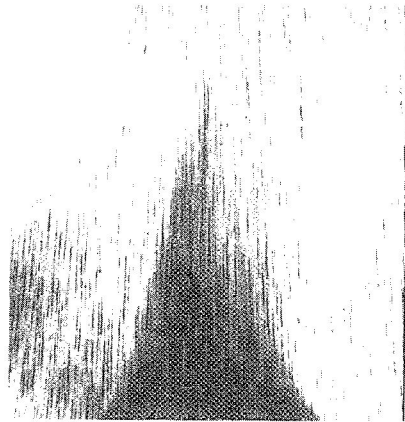


WITH FLUOREL

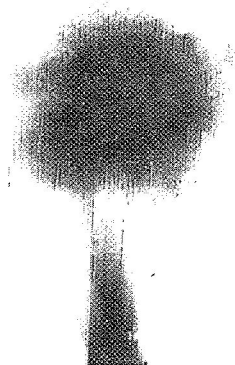


NASA-S-70-1559-X

## FLUOREL COATING ON PLYWOOD FAA FLAMMABILITY TEST



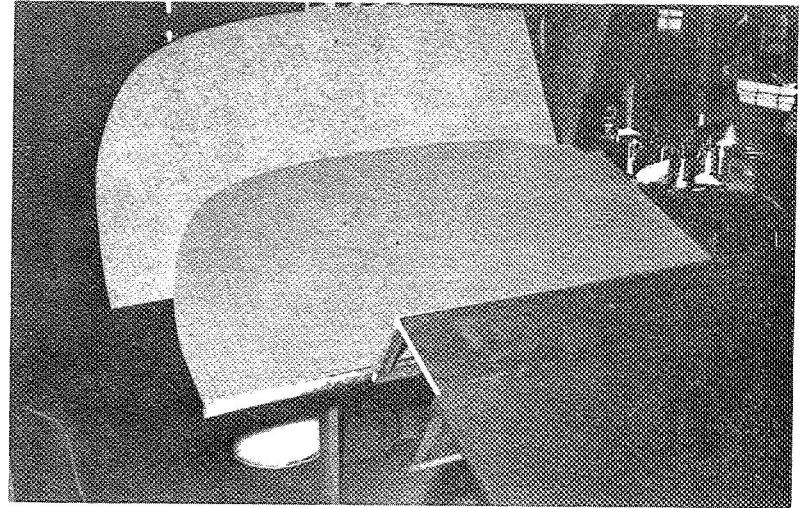
WITHOUT FLUOREL



WITH FLUOREL

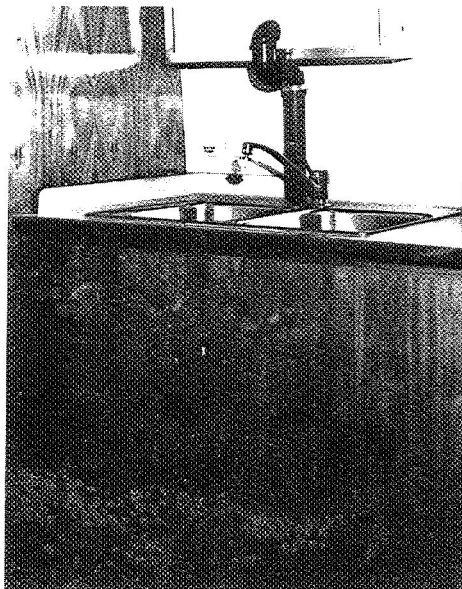
NASA-S-70-1570-X

## FLUOREL APPLICATION ON WOOD AND VINYL-ON-WOOD SURFACES



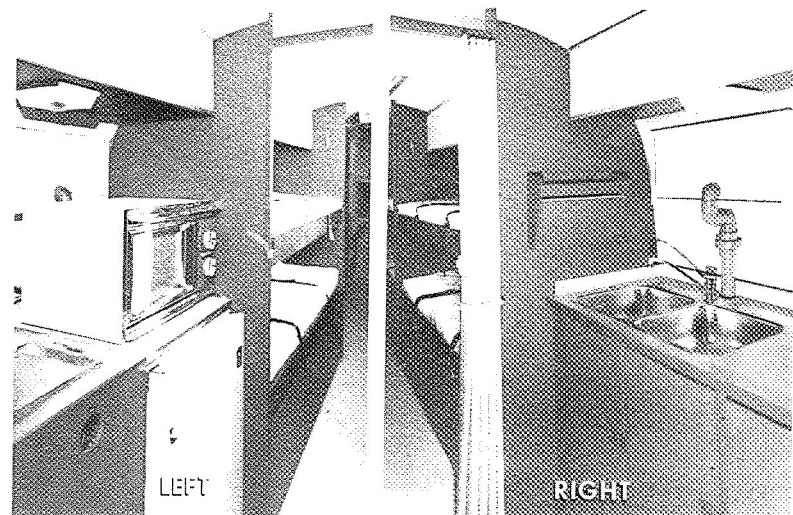
NASA-S-70-1556-X

## GALLEY SHOWING ORIGINAL WOOD SURFACES



NASA-S-70-1557-X

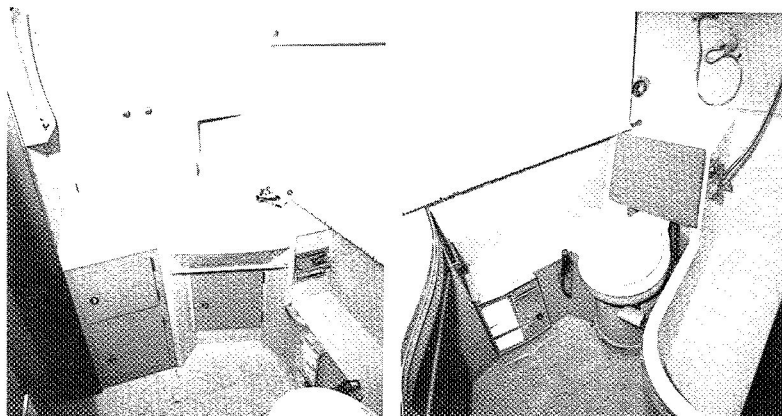
## GALLEY AND BUNK AREAS





NASA-S-70-1572-X

## LAVATORY AREA



LEFT

RIGHT

NASA-S-70-1565-X

## MATERIALS CHANGES MADE TO MEET FAA FLAMMABILITY REQUIREMENTS

### ● BULKHEADS, DOORS AND FRAMING MATERIALS

- \*WALNUT WOOD WITH FLUOREL
- \*OAK WOOD WITH FLUOREL
- \*VINYL-ON-WOOD WITH FLUOREL

### ● BATHROOM FIXTURES

#### ● BATHTUB

- \*FIBER-GLASS-REINFORCED  
PLASTIC WITH FLUOREL

#### ● LAVATORY

#### ● OTHER MOLDINGS

- FIRE RESISTANT PVC
- FIRE RESISTANT PVC

### ● MATTRESS

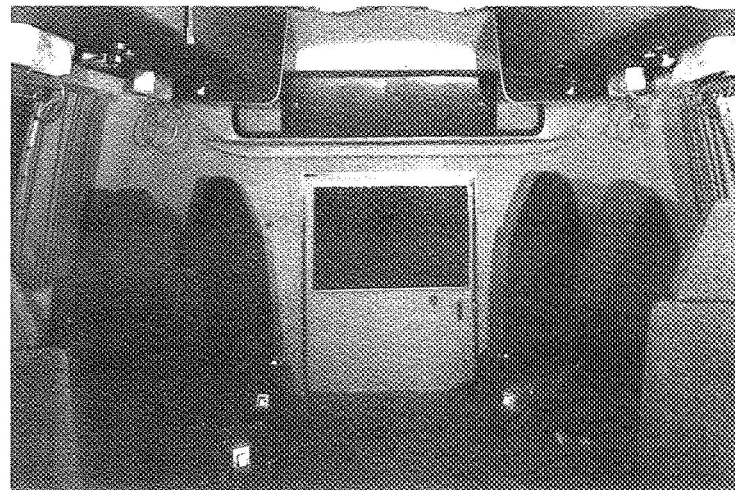
- EXTERIOR TICKING
- INTERIOR

- FIRE RESISTANT POLYETHELENE
- FIRE RESISTANT URETHANE FOAM

\*3-5 MILS COATING

NASA-S-70-1569-X

## LOUNGE AREA



NASA-S-70-1421-X

## MATERIALS CHANGES MADE TO MEET FAA FLAMMABILITY REQUIREMENTS (CONT)

### ● SEATS

- FIRE RESISTANT MATERIALS

### ● CURTAINS

- COMB. VEREL MODACRYLIC,  
SARAN FLAT MONO-  
FILAMENT, AND VISCOSE  
RAYON

### ● INTERIOR END SECTIONS

- \*FIBER-GLASS-REINFORCED  
PLASTIC WITH FLUOREL

### ● FLOOR

- ASBESTOS-VINYL TILE

### ● PLUMBING

- FIRE RESISTANT PVC

• 3-5 MILS COATING

## SUMMARY

- PRACTICAL APPLICATIONS OF ADVANCE-  
MENT IN TECHNOLOGY
- APPLICATION OF FLUOREL
- OPERATIONAL USE OF MQF

PROTECTIVE CLOTHING UTILIZED AT THE  
KENNEDY SPACE CENTER

By Joel R. Reynolds  
NASA Kennedy Space Center

ABSTRACT

The suit and suit material requirements for the Kennedy Space Center spacecraft close-out crew and astronaut rescue team are described in relation to the responsibilities and functions of these teams. Several years ago, the spacecraft close-out crew searched for a satisfactory garment material and selected Nomex, a member of the nylon family. The properties of Nomex and the results of tests are described which indicate that Nomex garments can withstand very short exposure to high-intensity heat and have heat-insulating properties which can protect the crews. It is noted that better performing flame-resistant materials are now available for use in lightweight fire-protection garments.

CONVENTIONAL  
PROXIMITY FIRE  
SUPPRESSION SUIT



ASTRONAUT RESCUE  
TEAM  
ALUMINIZED 'NOMEX'  
FIRE SUPPRESSION SUIT



FIRE EXTINGUISHMENT IN HYPOBARIC  
AND HYPERBARIC ENVIRONMENTS

By J. H. Kimzey  
NASA Manned Spacecraft Center

ABSTRACT

Atmospheres of spacecraft and support equipment and problems of accidental fire in these atmospheres are discussed. A test program to determine the effectiveness of several fire extinguishants is reviewed. Open-cell foamed polyurethane is employed as the fuel in this program. Several extinguishants widely used for fires in air were ineffective or even detrimental in the oxygen-enriched test atmospheres, because they increased the burning rates. Gases such as Halon 1301, carbon dioxide, nitrogen, helium, and argon are included in this category. Water or water-based foams are shown to be effective. Data on the performance of water as a fire extinguishant in pure-oxygen atmospheres at 14.7 psia or less (hypobaric) and in air at pressures as great as 105 psia (hyperbaric) are presented and discussed.

## AEROSPACE ENVIRONMENT

- OXYGEN
  - 21, 60, AND 100 PERCENT
- PRESSURE
  - 3.5, 5, 14.7 AND 16.5 PSIA

## HALON 1301 TESTS IN APOLLO BOILERPLATE

PRESSURE 14.7 PSIA

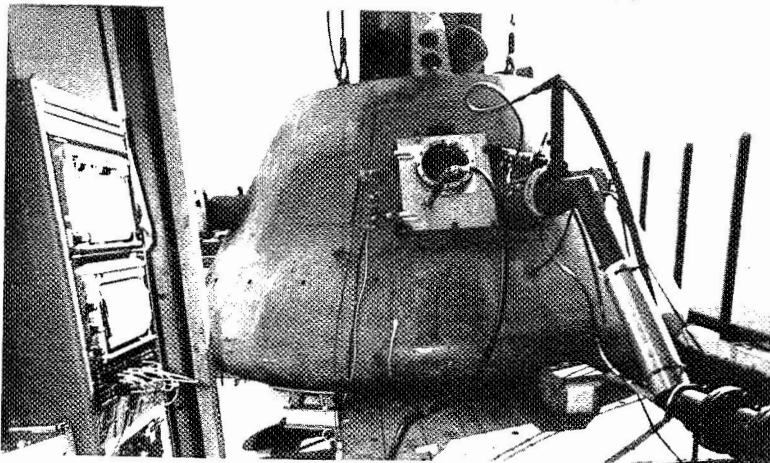
AMOUNT HALON 1301, LB	FUEL	OXYGEN, PERCENT	EXTINGUISHED
IGNITED IN OPEN TOP CONTAINER			
1.7	1	21	YES
1.7	2	24	YES
1.7	2	33	YES
1.7	2	82	NO
1.7	2	78	NO
1.7	2	79	NO
IGNITED ON FLAT BOARD			
1.7	2	82	NO
1.7	2	83	NO
3.5	3	81	NO
3.4	3	81	NO
4.0	3	80	NO

1 POLYSTYRENE FOAM

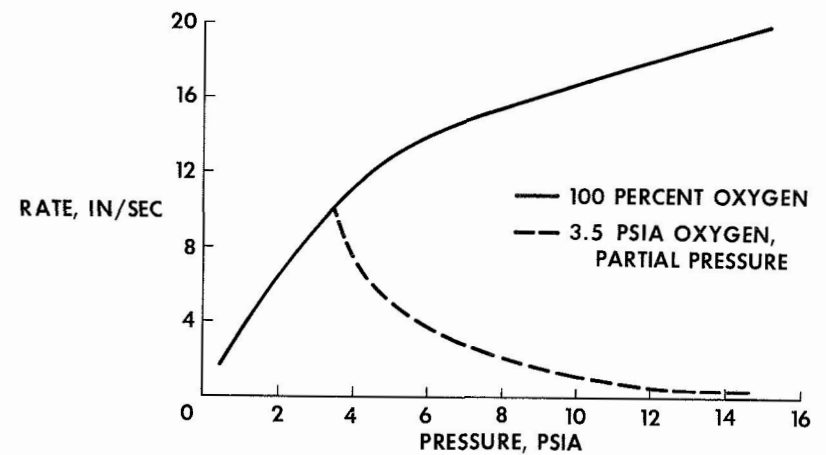
2 POLYURETHANE FOAM

3 COMPOSITE ASSORTMENT

## APOLLO BOILERPLATE USED FOR FIRE EXTINGUISHER TESTS



## HORIZONTAL FLAME PROPAGATION RATE OPEN CELL POLYURETHANE FOAM



**RATING OF EXTINGUISHING AGENTS**

POLYURETHANE FOAM FIRE IN OXYGEN (5 TO 16.2 PSIA)

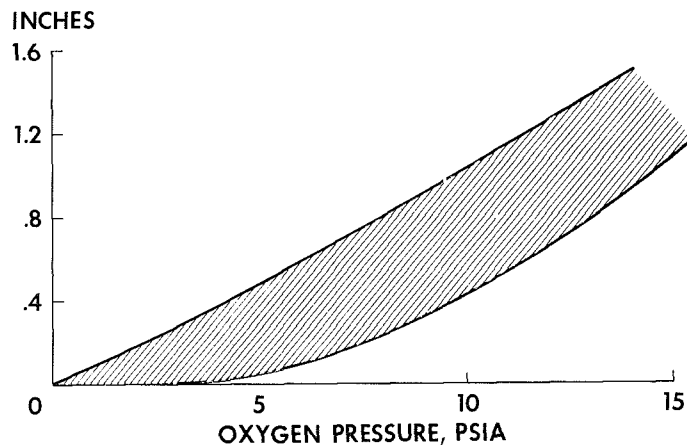
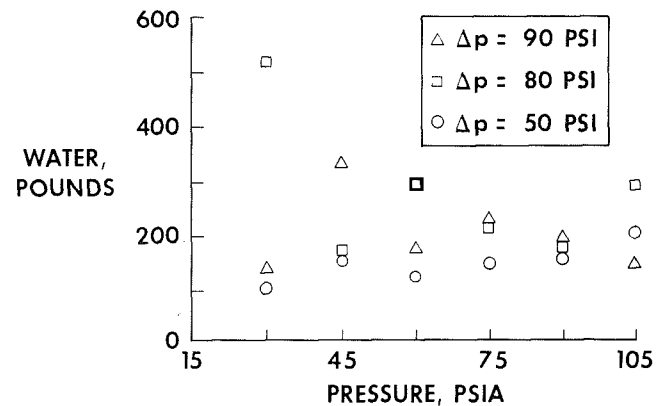
GASSES	
HALON 1301 HELIUM NITROGEN ARGON CARBON DIOXIDE	} INTENSIFIES BURNING
SOLIDS	
SODIUM BICARBONATE	INEFFECTIVE
POTASSIUM BICARBONATE	INEFFECTIVE

**RATING OF EXTINGUISHING AGENTS (CONT)**

POLYURETHANE FOAM FIRE IN OXYGEN (5 TO 16.2 PSIA)

LIQUIDS	
WATER	GOOD
FOAM	GOOD
ETHYLENE GLYCOL SOLUTION	POOR
GEL SOLUTION*	EXCELLENT
VENT	
PUMPDOWN TO 0.12 PSIA IN 2 MIN	INEFFECTIVE

\* WATER CONTAINING GEL (0.25 PERCENT),  
300 TO 350 CENTIPOISE

**EQUIVALENT THICKNESS OF WATER APPLIED  
TO EXTINGUISH POLYURETHANE FOAM  
FIRE IN OXYGEN****WATER EXTINGUISHMENT IN  
HYPERBARIC CHAMBER (180 CU FT VOL)  
USING 27-1/2 PERCENT O<sub>2</sub>**

## OXYGEN TRANSPORT

- GASEOUS
  - AIRCRAFT
  - TRUCK
  - RAILROAD
  - PIPELINE
- LIQUID (VENTED CONTAINER)
  - AIRCRAFT
  - TRUCK
  - RAILROAD
- SOLID (VENTED CONTAINER)
  - AIRCRAFT
  - TRUCK

## OXYGEN-ENRICHED ATMOSPHERES

- AIRCRAFT
  - CABIN AND COCKPIT
- OCEANOGRAPHY
  - INCREASED PARTIAL PRESSURE
- MEDICAL
  - OXYGEN TENTS
  - HYPERBARIC CHAMBERS
- INDUSTRIAL
  - METALLURGY
  - CHEMICAL RAW MATERIAL
  - SEWAGE TREATMENT
- SPACE
  - SPACECRAFT
  - LUNAR VEHICLES
  - GROUND TRAINING EQUIPMENT
  - MISSILE SILOS



SESSION IV

SPECIAL TESTS

Session Chairman: H. Kurt Strass

# MANNED SPACECRAFT ELECTRICAL FIRE SAFETY

By Anthony W. Wardell  
NASA Manned Spacecraft Center

## ABSTRACT

Of the possible ignition sources of fires in oxygen enriched atmospheres electrical ignition sources are the most probable. Of these electrical sources, electrical wire/cable is the most likely. The NASA approach to minimizing electrical wire/cable ignition hazards is discussed. The shortcomings of typical commercial wire/cable flammability test procedures are outlined. A new wire/cable electrical current overload flammability test is described, together with results to date. Many commonly used insulating and electrical system accessory materials are not firesafe for use in spacecraft oxygen enriched atmospheres. Accordingly, a list is given of materials that pass or fail the newly developed test. The effect of the wire/cable flammability test results on spacecraft configurations and the resultant design and procedural standards are discussed. "Spin-off" potential applications to the enhancement of electrical fire safety in commercial, residential, and airframe applications are enumerated.

## FIRE SAFETY GOALS

- MINIMIZE COMBUSTIBLES
- MINIMIZE IGNITION SOURCES

## IGNITION SOURCES

- ELECTRICAL
- HOT SURFACES
- OPEN FLAME
- HEATED GASES
- HIGH ENERGY IMPACT
- CHEMICAL
- ELECTROSTATIC SPARKS

## SPACE PROGRAM FIRES

LOCATION	DATE	O <sub>2</sub> , PSIA	PROBABLE CAUSE
BROOKS AFB 2-MAN SIMULATOR (2 SUBJECTS)	1962	5	ELECTRICAL OVERLOAD
AIR CREW EQUIP- MENT LAB, PHILA (4 SUBJECTS)	1962	5	LIGHT FIXTURE ARCED
APOLLO ECS CHAMBER, TORRANCE, CALIF (UNMANNED)	1966	5	SHORT CIRCUIT OF STRIP HEATER
APOLLO 204 COMMAND MODULE (3 ASTRONAUTS) *	1967	16	WIRE SHORT CIRCUIT
BROOKS AFB 2-MAN SIMULATOR, (2 SUBJECTS) *	1967	5	LIGHT CORD SHORT CIRCUIT

\* FATALITIES

## WIRE AND CABLE - MOST PROBABLE ELECTRICAL IGNITION SOURCES

- USER MAY TREAT WIRE AS 'RAW MATERIAL'
- WIRING IS VULNERABLE
- WIRING INTEGRITY IS DIFFICULT TO VERIFY
- CIRCUIT PROTECTIVE DEVICES MAY NOT BE 100 PERCENT EFFECTIVE
- WIRE INSULATIONS/ELECTRICAL ACCESSORY MATERIALS MAY IGNITE AND PROPAGATE FLAME

## NASA APPROACH TO MINIMIZE WIRE AND CABLE IGNITION HAZARDS

- INCREASED QUALITY CONTROL AT CONTRACTORS AND WIRE SUPPLIERS
- CHAFE GUARDS, WIRE TRAYS
- IN-PROCESS TEST AND INSPECTION
  - VISUAL INSPECTION
  - DIELECTRIC TESTS
- CIRCUIT BREAKER IMPROVEMENTS
- WIRE/CABLE ELECTRICAL OVERLOAD TEST
  - SCREENS CANDIDATE WIRE INSULATIONS
  - SCREENS CANDIDATE ELECTRICAL ACCESSORIES

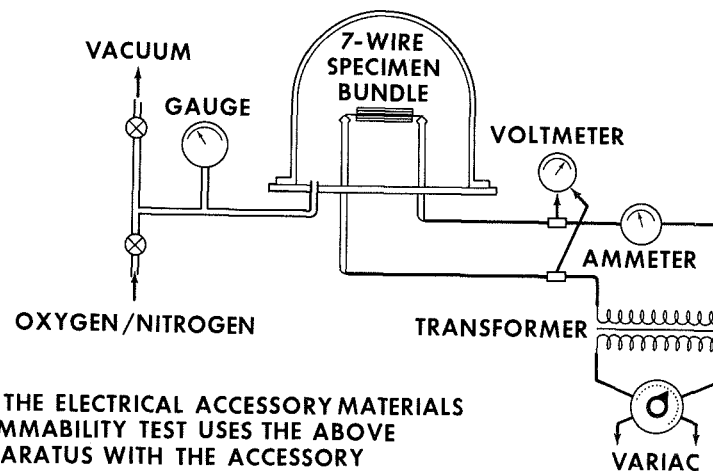
## COMMERCIAL WIRE INSULATION FLAMMABILITY TESTS

<u>SPECIMEN</u>	<u>IGNITION TECHNIQUE</u>	<u>ACCEPTANCE CRITERIA</u>
<u>UNDERWRITERS' LABORATORIES</u>		
HORIZONTAL SINGLE WIRE	TIRRILL BURNER 30 SEC	1 IN. PER MIN
VERTICAL SINGLE WIRE	TIRRILL BURNER FIVE 15-SEC EXPOSURES	10 IN. TOTAL 1 MIN MAX
<u>TYPICAL COMMERCIAL AIRCRAFT</u>		
60 DEG SINGLE WIRE	BUNSEN BURNER 15 SEC AWG 30-18 30 SEC AWG 16-12	MEASURE AFTER-BURN TIME POST-TEST DIELECTRIC

## COMMERCIAL WIRE FLAMMABILITY TEST DEFICIENCIES

- ASSESSES ONLY THE WIRE INSULATION'S CONTRIBUTION TO AN ALREADY EXISTING FIRE
- COLD COPPER HEAT SINK
- SHORT FLAME EXPOSURE TIME
- FLAME PROPAGATION IS ACCEPTABLE

## NASA WIRE INSULATION FLAMMABILITY TEST SCHEMATIC DIAGRAM OF APPARATUS

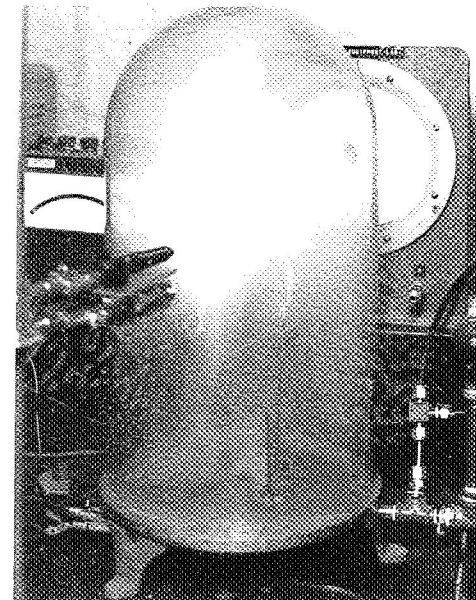


NOTE: THE ELECTRICAL ACCESSORY MATERIALS FLAMMABILITY TEST USES THE ABOVE APPARATUS WITH THE ACCESSORY INSTALLED OVER THE SPECIMEN BUNDLE

## NASA WIRE INSULATION FLAMMABILITY TEST

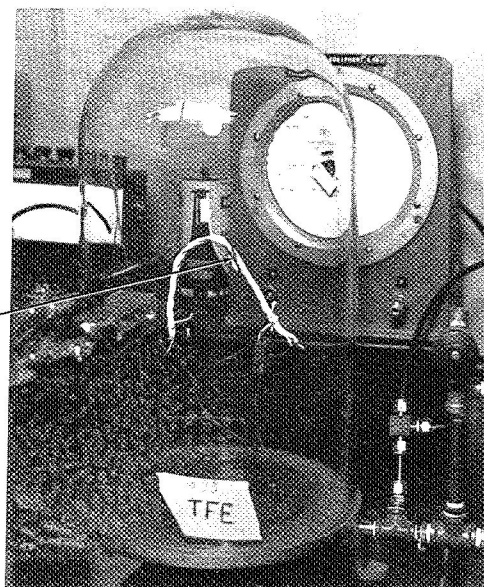
<u>SPECIMEN</u>	<u>IGNITION TECHNIQUE</u>	<u>ACCEPTANCE CRITERIA</u>
HORIZONTAL 7-WIRE BUNDLE	CURRENT OVERLOAD TO CONDUCTOR FUSION	NO FLAME PROPAGATION
ONE 'HOT' WIRE	80%-90% OF FUSION CURRENT  5 AMP STEPS EACH MINUTE	INSULATION INTEGRITY ON ADJACENT WIRES

### POLYOLEFIN BUNDLE BURNING IN 100 PERCENT OXYGEN AT 5 PSIA



20-4

### TEFLON BUNDLE BURNING NOTE SMALL BLUE FLAME IN 100 PERCENT O<sub>2</sub> AT 5 PSIA



### UNACCEPTABLE ELECTRICAL MATERIALS IN OXYGEN-RICH ATMOSPHERES

- WIRE INSULATIONS
  - POLYOLEFIN
  - POLYVINYL CHLORIDE
  - SILICONE RUBBER
  - POLYVINYLIDENE FLUORIDE
- ELECTRICAL ACCESSORY MATERIALS
  - NYLON
  - POLYOLEFIN
  - VINYL
  - SILICONE
  - POLYVINYLIDENE FLUORIDE

## ACCEPTABLE ELECTRICAL MATERIALS IN OXYGEN-RICH ATMOSPHERES

- WIRE INSULATIONS
  - TEFLON TFE
  - TFE/ML
  - KAPTON/FEP\*
- ELECTRICAL ACCESSORY MATERIALS
  - TEFLON TFE
  - FLUOREL
  - FIBER GLASS/ POLYIMIDE LAMINATE

\*NOT ACCEPTABLE AS A SHIELDED  
ELECTRICAL CABLE JACKET  
MATERIAL

## IMPACT OF NASA WIRE/CABLE FLAMMABILITY TEST

- GEMINI CABIN WIRING
- CM WIRING
- LM WIRING
- KAPTON/FEP CABLE 'BURNING REACTION'  
IN OXYGEN ENVIRONMENTS
- ELECTRICAL ACCESSORY MATERIALS
- NASA DESIGN AND PROCEDURAL STANDARDS

## RECOMMENDATIONS

- MATERIALS AND INSULATING SYSTEMS  
ACCEPTED BY NASA AS FIRE-SAFE IN  
SPACECRAFT OXYGEN ATMOSPHERES  
SHOULD BE CONSIDERED FOR USE IN  
COMMERCIAL, RESIDENTIAL,  
AND AIRFRAME APPLICATIONS
- UNREALISTIC BUNSEN BURNER TEST  
SHOULD BE REPLACED WITH AN ELEC-  
TRICAL OVERLOAD FLAMMABILITY TEST
- ELECTRICAL ACCESSORY MATERIALS SHOULD  
BE TESTED AS INSTALLED OVER AN  
ELECTRICAL OVERLOAD TEST SPECIMEN

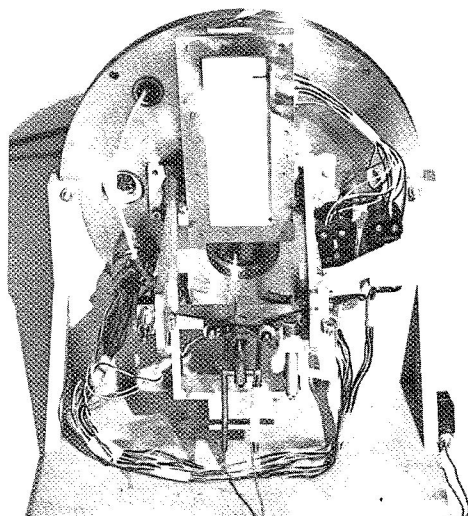
## SPECIAL FLAMMABILITY TEST TECHNIQUES

By Dale G. Sauers  
NASA Manned Spacecraft Center

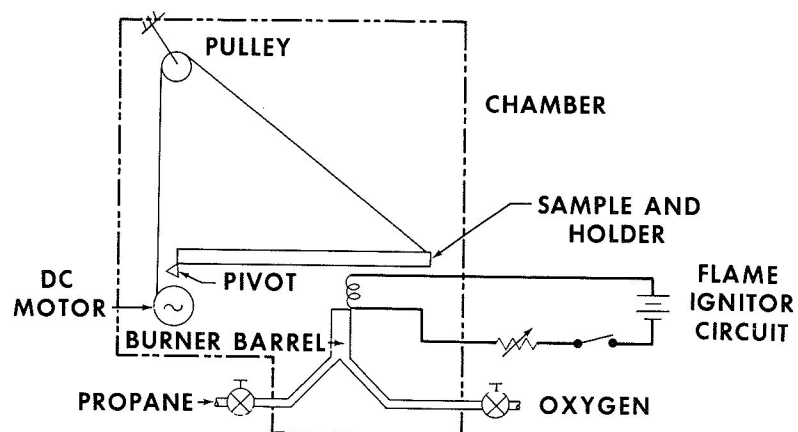
### ABSTRACT

This paper discusses four new nonstandard test methods that have been developed to provide preliminary engineering data and to permit early prediction of end-item performance prior to full-scale-mockup flammability tests. The test methods discussed, all of which are operable in oxygen-enriched environments, are as follows: (1) flame impingement testing, which simulates a constant flame source and provides data on relative flammability and thermal performance; (2) short-circuit ignition testing, which evaluates the material in proximity to simulated electrical arcing; (3) polycarbonate-drip ignition testing, which evaluates the performance of materials exposed to falling flaming embers; and (4) flash-point/fire-point testing, which evaluates the performance of overheated materials in the presence of an electrical spark.

## FLAME IMPINGEMENT TESTER

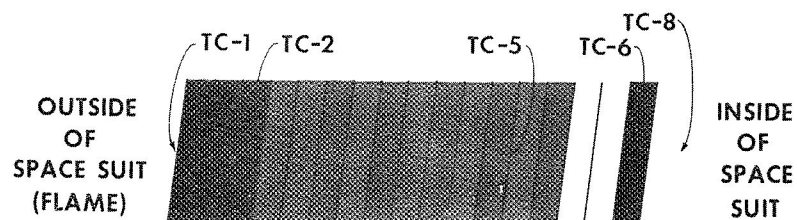


## FLAME IMPINGEMENT TESTER



21-2

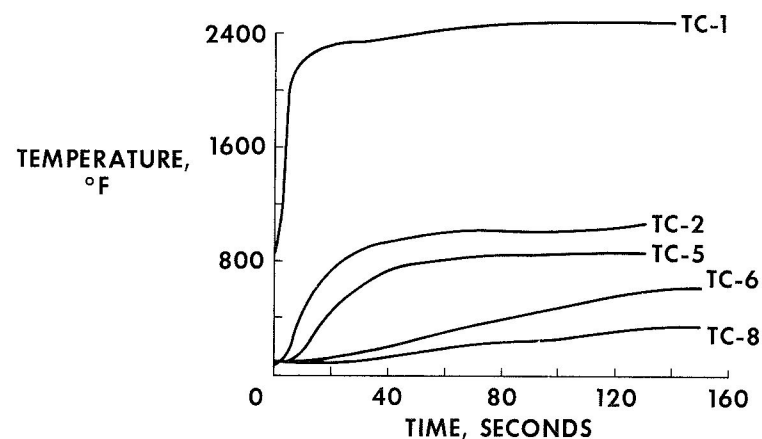
## EXPERIMENTAL SPACE SUIT LAYUP



- BETA
- KAPTON
- GLASS SPACER
- BLADDER
- NYLON

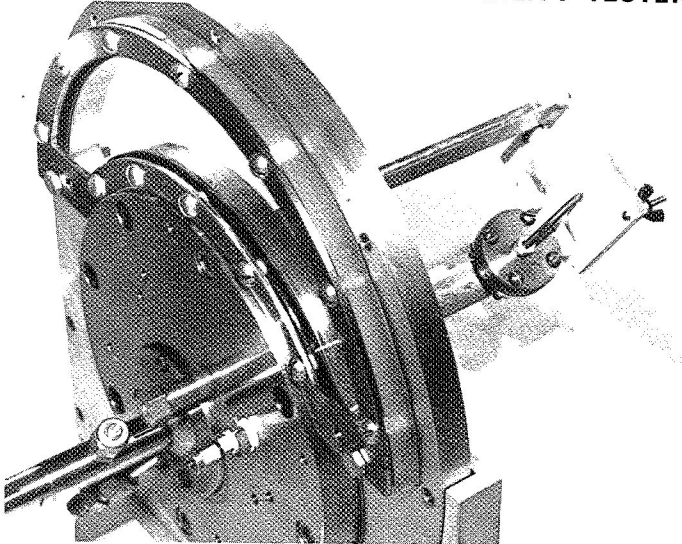
## FLAME IMPINGEMENT TEST, EXPERIMENTAL SPACE SUIT LAYUP

BLADDER DECOMPOSITION  
TIME - 150 SEC

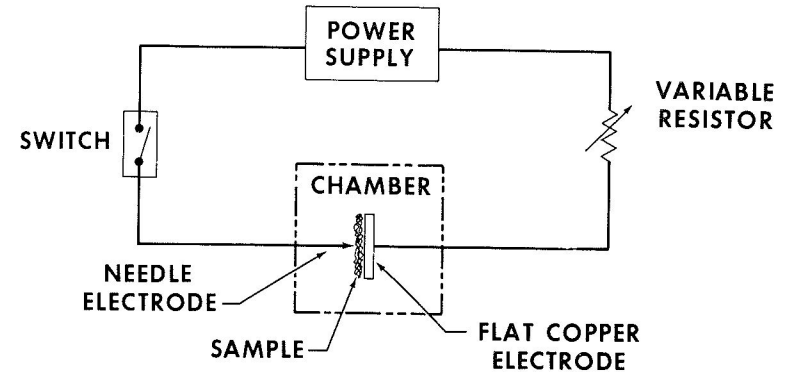




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**SHORT CIRCUIT FLAMMABILITY TESTER**

NASA-S-70-1625-X

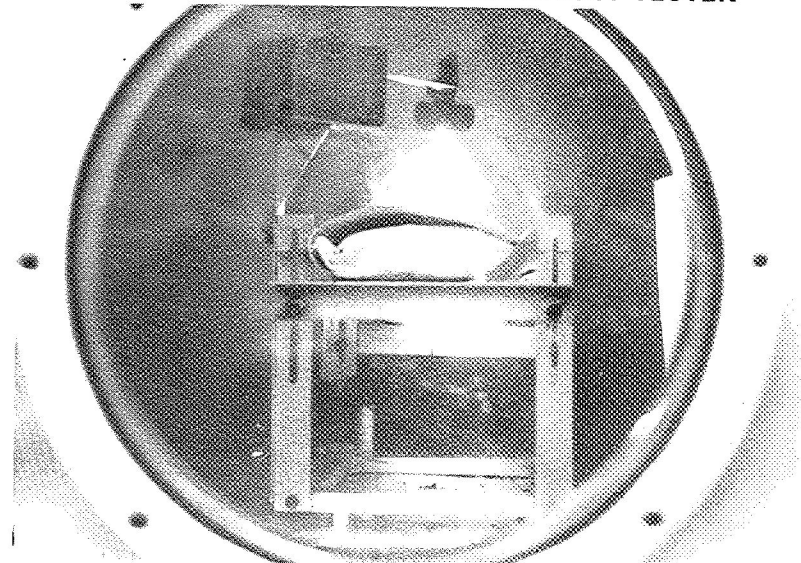
**ELECTRICAL SCHEMATIC SHORT CIRCUIT FLAMMABILITY TESTER**

NASA-S-70-1627-X

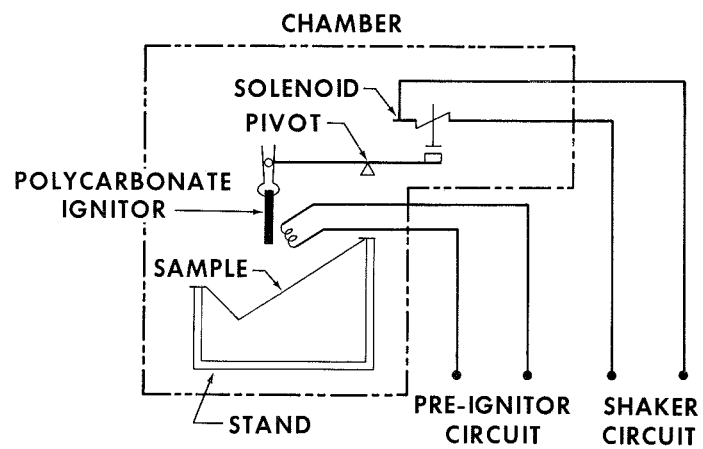
**SHORT-CIRCUIT-CURRENT FLAMMABILITY TEST**95 PERCENT O<sub>2</sub>, 28V DC OPEN CIRCUIT

MATERIAL	CHAMBER PRESSURE, PSIA	RESISTANCE, OHMS	MINIMUM CURRENT, AMPS
UNWASHED COTTON KNIT (GREEN)	{ 19	21.5	1.3
	{ 6	15.5	1.8
CLEAN COTTON KNIT (GREEN)	{ 19	25.5	1.1
	{ 6	10.8	2.6
UNWASHED COTTON KNIT (WHITE)	{ 19	21.5	1.3
	{ --	--	--
HUMAN HAIR	{ 19	10	2.8
	{ 6	7.8	3.6
BIOINSTRUMENTATION INSULATION	{ 19	8.25	3.4
	{ 6	4.3	6.5

NASA-S-70-1615-X

**POLYCARBONATE DRIP IGNITION TESTER**

# POLYCARBONATE DRIP IGNITION TESTER



SPECIALIZED TESTING AND EVALUATION  
OF SPACE-SUIT MATERIALS

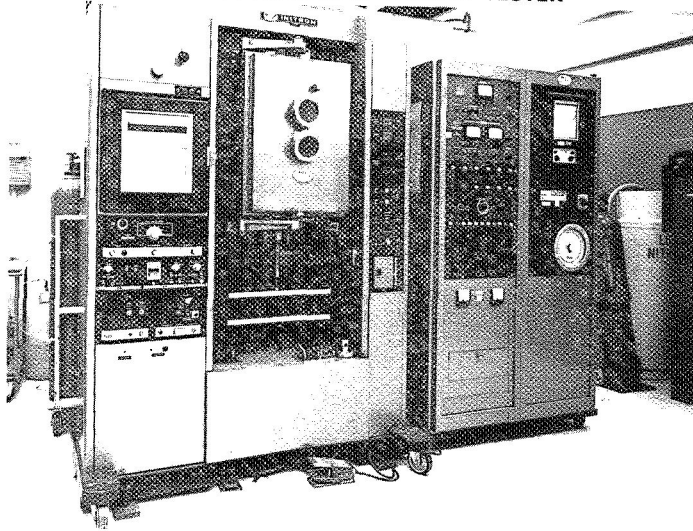
By Thomas J. Ballentine  
NASA Manned Spacecraft Center

ABSTRACT

This paper describes the test program to assure that space-suit materials will perform adequately under space and lunar-environment conditions. The application of specialized test apparatus, along with standard test equipment, was necessary. Included in this paper are discussions of the methods used in determining material tensile properties, abrasion and wear resistance, and flexibility characteristics of the Apollo space suit. Test equipment — such as the helmet impact tester, the finger-flexing tester, the elbow/wrist-flexing tester, and the boot/ankle-flexing tester — used for the evaluation of space-suit components are discussed. Finally, the combined environment simulator that is designed to simulate the combined environmental characteristics of space and the lunar surface is described. Materials tested in this simulator are enumerated.

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## ENVIRONMENTAL TENSILE TESTER



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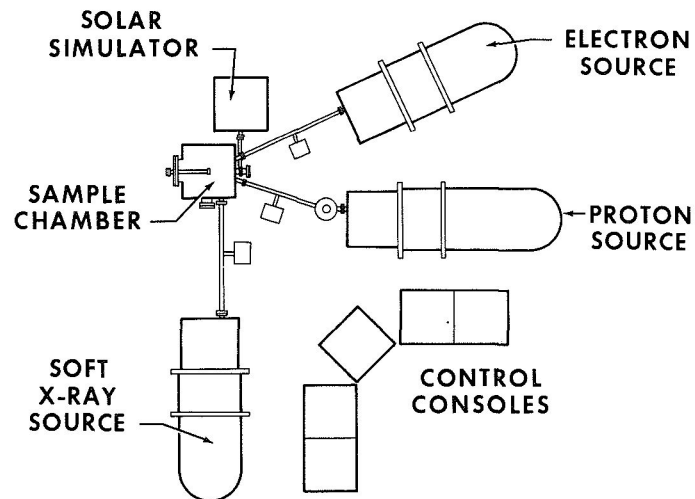
## SPECIAL TESTING APPARATUS

- ELBOW FLEXING TESTER
- BOOT/ANKLE FLEXING TESTER
- FINGER FLEXING TESTER
- FOLDING ENDURANCE TESTER
- ABRASION AND WEAR TESTER
- HELMET IMPACT TESTER

22-2

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## COMBINED ENVIRONMENT SIMULATOR

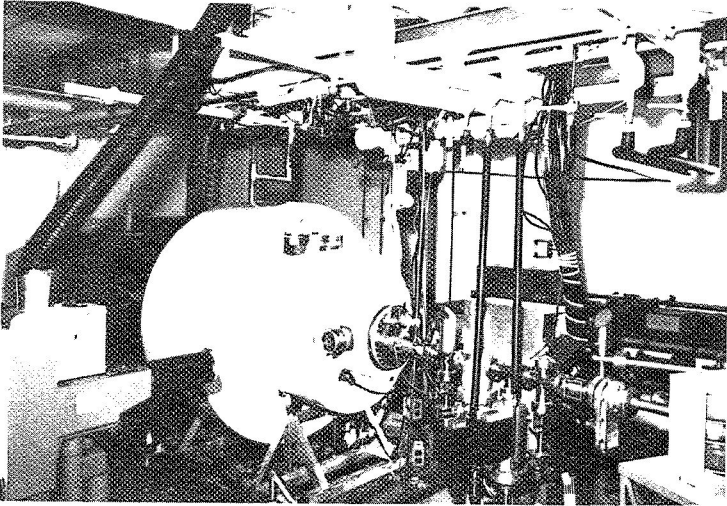


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## FEATURES OF COMBINED ENVIRONMENT SIMULATOR

- VACUUM
  - $10^{-12}$  mm Hg
- TEMPERATURE
  - $\pm 250^{\circ}$  F
- ELECTROMAGNETIC RADIATION
  - INFRARED, VISIBLE, ULTRAVIOLET AND SOFT X-RAYS
- PARTICULATE FLUX
  - ELECTRONS AND PROTONS

## COMBINED ENVIRONMENT SIMULATOR



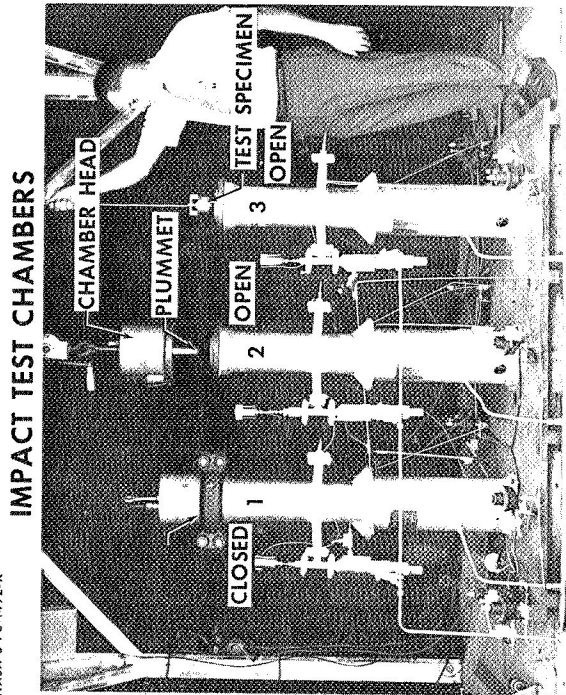
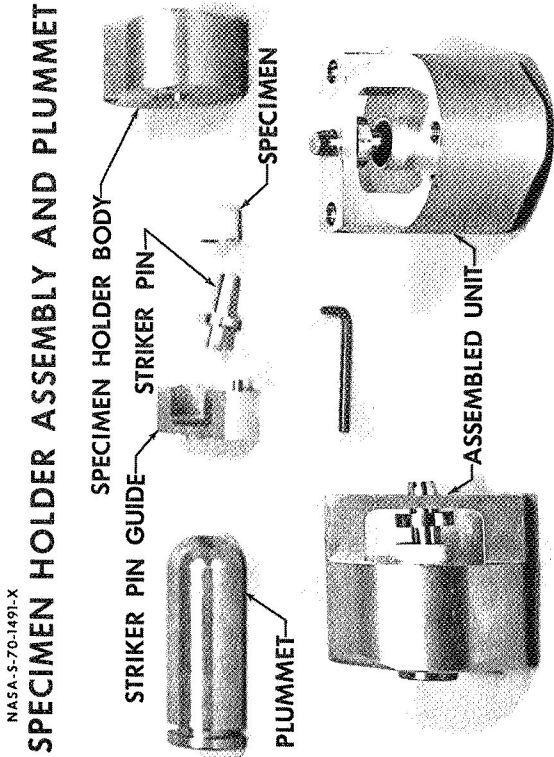
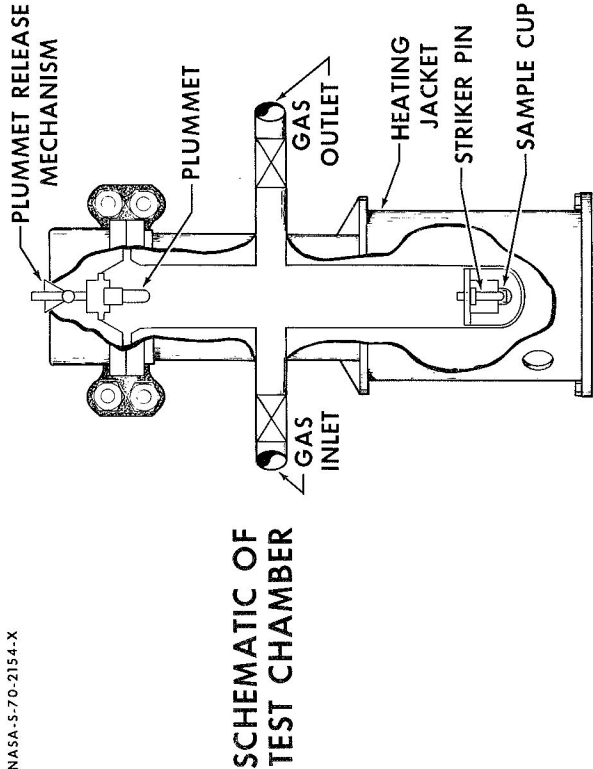
## DEVELOPMENT OF AN OXYGEN

### IMPACT TESTING METHOD

By Herschel H. Jamison  
NASA Manned Spacecraft Center

#### ABSTRACT

It is well established that many materials which are satisfactory for use in air will ignite and burn in pure oxygen when subjected to mechanical impact. Because of this fact, various testing and screening methods have been proposed to evaluate the stability of materials to be used in oxygen systems. The most common method used is the Army Ballistics Missile Agency liquid-oxygen impact test, in which samples are immersed in liquid oxygen and then impacted by a falling plummet. This system has its limitations, however, for testing materials to be used in pressurized gas (as opposed to liquid oxygen). Because of these limitations, the need existed for an impact test method based on the testing of materials in gaseous oxygen. Since no satisfactory method was available, a program was initiated to develop a suitable test method. A system was conceived, equipment was designed and built, and procedures were developed for testing materials at temperatures up to 450° F and pressures up to 7500 psi in oxygen. Although the method is still in the evaluation and development stage, sufficient data have been gathered from the testing of Apollo spacecraft materials to conclude that the method will fill an important need.



SUMMARY RESULTS OF IMPACT TESTS BY MATERIAL CLASS				
MATERIAL CLASS	TYPES TESTED	TOTAL TESTS	PERCENT TESTS SHOWING NO COMBUSTION	
FLUOROCARBON	9	181	100	
SILICONE HYDROCARBONS	5	76	78	
COMMON HYDROCARBONS	7	117	83	
GREASES AND LUBRICANTS	6	108	91	

## SUMMARY

- THIS IS A NEW TEST - NOT COMPLETELY PROVEN - TEST RESULTS TO BE CAREFULLY INTERPRETED
- TEST CONDITIONS APPROXIMATE USE CONDITIONS FOR MANY MATERIALS
- TEST SYSTEM IS HAZARDOUS
- TEST COVERS SIGNIFICANT AREA NOT PREVIOUSLY COVERED (HIGH PRESSURE GASEOUS OXYGEN)



## ODOR TEST

By Leonard A. Schluter and David L. Pippen  
NASA Manned Spacecraft Center

### ABSTRACT

Manned space flight requires the confinement of personnel for extended periods of time with limited atmosphere purification systems available. Gaseous contaminants given off by materials such as fabrics, insulation, and adhesives can create nauseating and irritating odors. A material screening test was developed in which qualified personnel evaluate the odor characteristics of candidate spacecraft material. The odor test data provide design engineers with guidance in the selection and use of nonmetallic materials in the spacecraft. This paper presents the method employed at NASA in evaluating candidate materials for odor characteristics. The selection of odor panel members and the safety aspects of odor testing are discussed. Scoring methods and results of typical tests are included.

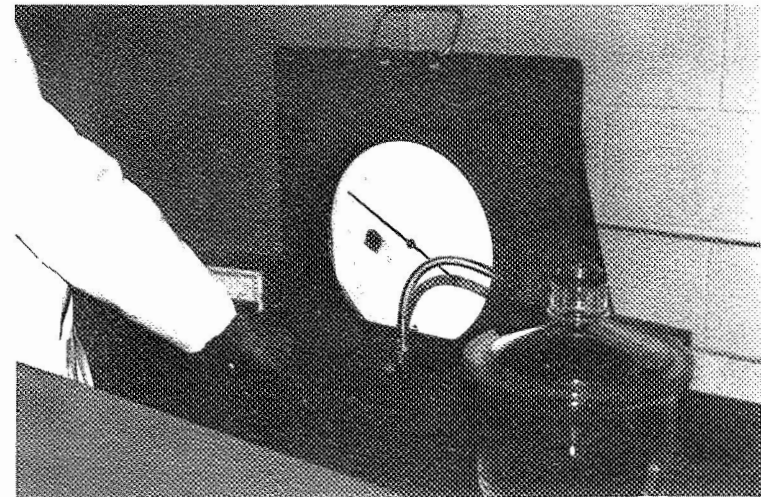
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## THERMAL BAKEOUT



NASA-S-70-2435-X

## CHARGING TO ATMOSPHERIC PRESSURE



NASA-S-70-2434-X

## ADMINISTERING THE ODOR TEST



NASA-S-70-2438-X

ODOR EVALUATORS WORKSHEET						
EVALUATOR MARTENS, M.		DATE 25 MARCH 70		SHEET 1 OF 1		
SAMPLE NO.	(0) NOT DETECTABLE	(1) BARELY DETECTABLE	(2) EASILY DETECTABLE	(3) OFFENSIVE	(4) IRRITATING	TOTAL
1	X					
2		X				
3			X			

ODOR TEST RATINGS							
PANEL MEMBERS		ODOR SAMPLE CONCENTRATION					
		1 to 29 PARTS	1 to 9 PARTS	NO DILUTION			
( 1 )	PARKER, JOE	0	0	1			
( 2 )	TAYLOR, RONALD J	0	1	1			
( 3 )	HENDERSON, PARKER	0	0	1			
( 4 )	NEUMER, OSCAR	0	1	2			
( 5 )	SARABIA, DONALD	0	1	1			
( 6 )	SWITZER, GEORGE	0	1	1			
( 7 )	SHOCKLEY, KEN	0	0	0			
( 8 )	MARTENS, MARVIN	0	1	2			
( 9 )	FINNIE, M.W.	0	1	1			
( 10 )	GOGGIN, DONALD	1	1	2			
TOTAL		1.0	7.0	12.0			
AVG. RATINGS		0.1	0.7	1.2			
DATE		TECH	TECH	CHECKED BY	STC ENG'RNG	Q. A.	OTHER

SCORE RANGE	% IN SCORE RANGE
0 — 0.4	6.3
0.5 — 0.9	13.6
1.0 — 1.4	26.5
1.5 — 1.9	29.9
2.0 — 2.4	15.7
2.5 — 2.9	6.7
3.0 — 3.4	.7
3.5 — 4.0	.6

DILUTION	NONE	1:9	1:29
ALUMINA CEMENT	1.4	0.4	0.4
POTTING RESIN	2.0	1.2	0.6
KAPTON FILM	0.7	0.0	0.0
ION EXCHANGE RESIN	3.5	2.1	2.0

NOTE: THE ABOVE FIGURES ARE AVERAGE SCORES FOR THE DILUTIONS SHOWN.

## TOXICOLOGY OF SPACECRAFT MATERIALS

By Elliot S. Harris  
NASA Manned Spacecraft Center

### ABSTRACT

It is essential that materials selected for use in spacecraft do not contribute noxious components to the atmosphere, which would endanger the performance or lives of the crew. It is equally important that in the event of accidental overheating or ignition, the materials selected have the lowest potential toxicity of thermal degradation products. To ensure that the materials were not toxic, those selected for use in the spacecraft were offgassed at  $150^{\circ} \pm 5^{\circ}$  F, and the effluvium was passed over growing rats and mice in a closed system for 7 days. Growth changes and histological evaluation were used as criteria for toxicity. Over 300 materials were evaluated in groups of 10 or more, and all were found to be acceptable. Special studies were performed on Scheufelen nonflammable paper and on a coated Beta-cloth jacket to evaluate potential skin and mucosal irritation. The nonflammable paper, although a potential mucosal irritant, tested satisfactorily; the coated jacket was irritating and, therefore, was not used.

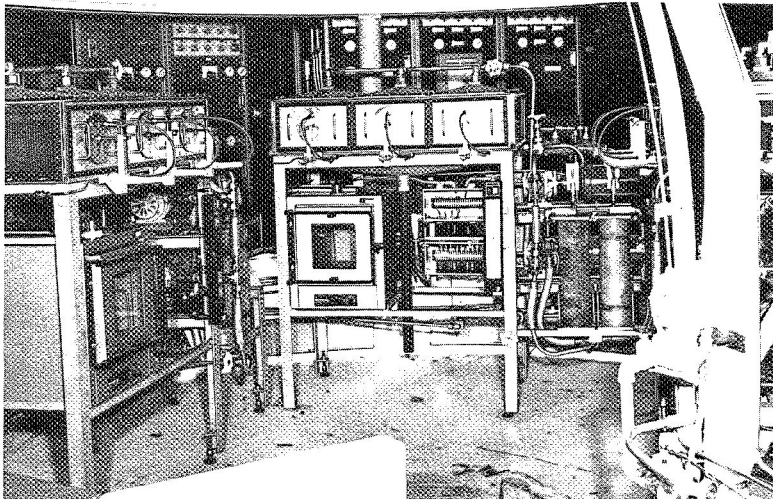
## APPROACHES TO TOXICOLOGICAL EVALUATION

- MATERIALS OFFGASSING CHARACTERISTICS
- TEST VEHICLE ATMOSPHERIC ANALYSIS
- FLIGHT VEHICLE ATMOSPHERIC ANALYSIS
- ANIMAL TOXICITY OF MATERIALS EFFLUVIUM

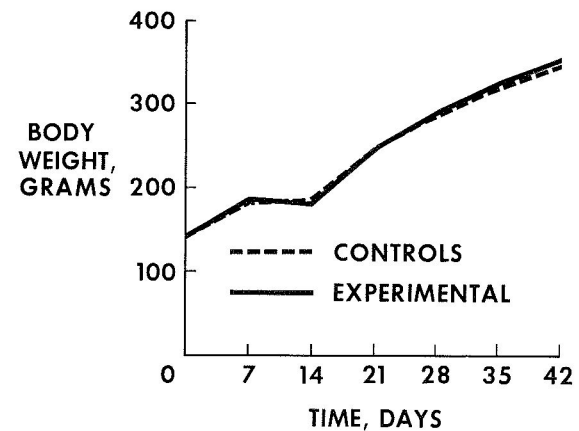
## ASSUMPTIONS FOR OFFGAS TEST

- MATERIALS OFFGAS SEVERAL COMPONENTS
- NO SINGLE COMPONENT WILL BE HIGHLY TOXIC
- NO ONE MATERIAL WILL BE EXCESSIVE

## OFFGASSING EXPOSURE SYSTEM



## MEAN GROWTH RATE OF MALE RATS



**MEAN RAT ORGAN WEIGHTS, GRAMS**

TEN RATS PER GROUP

	(2 WEEKS POSTEXPOSURE)				
	<u>HEART</u>	<u>LUNG</u>	<u>LIVER</u>	<u>SPLEEN</u>	<u>KIDNEY</u>
CONTROLS	1.0	1.2	9.1	.7	1.8
EXPOSED	.9	1.3	9.0	.7	1.9
	(4 WEEKS POSTEXPOSURE)				
CONTROLS	1.0	1.4	9.9	.8	2.1
EXPOSED	1.1	1.3	10.2	.8	2.2

**NONFLAMMABLE PAPER**

- SENSITIZATION
- IRRITATION
- TOXICITY

25-3

**CARBOXYNITROSO RUBBER**

THERMOGRAM

